



## Message from your Regional Director

### Fellow International Christian Educator,

I put “New Journaling Bible” on my Christmas wishlist this year and low and behold, my wish was granted (thank you [Sandee Shuman](#)). I got my very first journaling Bible in December 2019 just prior to COVID. For obvious reasons my time in the Word over the last two years was different than at any other time in my life to which I’m sure you can relate. It wasn’t just all that new space to write in my Bible, rather there was so MUCH to write about in my daily walk with God regarding the confusing disruptions that happened to all us.

As I opened that brand-new journaling Bible just days ago, I returned to the Psalms. Psalm 3 really stood out to me at the start of 2022. The pre-text to that chapter indicates that David wrote this psalm while being pursued by his own son. Yikes. No wonder he begins with, “O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me. As international educators we might easily identify with these opening words in light of the challenging time we find ourselves in right now. The work we have been called to seems to be in a continual state of flux: in-person today, remote tomorrow; random testing today, mandatory testing for everybody tomorrow, and back again, or some other version after that. To top it off, those changing requirements are often mandated by persons outside our immediate community and this can produce feelings of attack. Notice in verses 3-5 of Psalm 3 how David responded to the very real threat of violence he faced, “But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory and the lifter of my head. I cried aloud to the Lord, and He answered me from His holy hill. I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the Lord sustained me.” Wow.

We need to remember David’s reaction during any time of stress we might experience. Are you crying out to the Lord right now? Are you listening for his reply? He stands ready on his holy hill to hear that cry of yours and respond...to give you the sustaining rest/sleep/peace or confidence you need for today.

David ends Psalm 3 with, “Salvation belongs to the Lord; your blessing be on your people!” When I read Psalm 3 almost exactly two years ago today, I wrote in my previous journaling Bible, “Blessings be on me and on ACSI schools and leaders. 8 Jan 2020.”

Many blessings on you for 2022. We are praying for you.

*Please take a moment and check out this [short quarterly eflash update from ACSI President Larry Taylor](#), you won’t regret it. Larry outlines, in his optimistic and cheery way, how ACSI is changing to serve you better.*

Tim Shuman

*"Have you not known? Have you not heard?" (Isaiah 40:28)*

Tim Shuman for the [International School Team](#)

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[Tim Shuman, Regional Director, International Schools](#)

[Caitlin Taylor, Global Activity & International Events Coordinator](#) to Tim S

[Tim Thompson, Associate Regional Director](#)

[Kimberly Park, Executive Assistant](#) to Tim T

## Coming Up

- [Winter Virtual Job Fair](#) is 1-2 March 2022. Register your school now. We are pushing hard on several new marketing initiatives through the months of January and February to bring quality job candidates to this fair. Those who participated in the Fall Virtual Job Fair will receive \$100 discount for registering for the Winter Virtual Job Fair.
- [ICEC Europe](#) is still on our calendars for 8-9 April 2022. Poll results from leaders in the region indicated that there is strong enough interest to go forward with the conference in-person. We will continue to monitor the state of the COVID restrictions in the region during the lead up to the event. While there is hope that this current phase of COVID will recede with warmer weather, going virtual remains a REAL possibility. We will send out a more specific email to leaders shortly.
- [PFO2Go](#) is an excellent way to get your second semester hires ready to transition to your school. Leaders - let us know if you need access to review the course.
- [ISLC 2023](#). Please make plans to join other leaders at the International School Leader Conference (ISLC) in beautiful Dubrovnik, Croatia on 23-25 April 2023.
- We know that the International School Salary & Tuition survey is not really an event, it just feels that way. We will be sending out a reminder with links to all Heads again. We need your participation. Thank you.

## Resources

- [Kindness and the Ministry of Leadership](#). This article out of Australia is targeted at the Christian School leader. I think it is the best thing you will read today.
- For Heads and Boards. Some of our international Christian schools, like the secular ones in this article, are also employing [Longer Recruit Times](#) when securing a new

Head of School. This article outlines some possible “unintended consequences” of this approach. It might be useful for a board discussion on succession planning.

- I know a few of you are dealing with very full enrollments at your school and might even have a waiting list. This article will be helpful to you. [Full Enrollment? Here's What Your School Needs from Marketing and Admissions.](#)
- This article by David I. Smith on [Learning to Pray](#) is worthy of your time. You may remember David as a keynoter from ICEC Europe, Professor of Education at Calvin University, and author of several helpful books.
- I know there will be a reader or two who need this one. [Comfort for Christian Parents of Unconverted Children](#). I would also add, “comfort for parents of children who have walked away from the faith”. I needed this one.
- For those involved with Child Safety (all of you?), once again I recommend the good work of our friends at CSPN (Child Safety and Protection Network). Check out their [Public Resource page](#) and their [Events and Trainings](#). Is your school a member?
- I'm really enjoying the work of TISCA, our Christian schooling friends in the UK. Please check out their brief newsletter that includes a short blurb on [Are you having enough fun? A wealth of ideas for Christian events at school.](#)
- Another helpful Europe-based Christian organization is [EuroTCK](#). Their latest EduCare newsletter focuses on Building Resilient Families in a Screen-Filled Age.
- This article out of Canada rightly points out that when the pandemic hit schools, "...Government [and private schools] turned to parents for the services it had been accustomed to providing." The author masterfully places a spotlight on the rightful place of parents in the educational needs of their children. [Pandemic schooling has made parents the guiding stars of education.](#)
- For HS seniors and moms and dads, this [Virtual Christian College Fair](#) looks great. 14 March through 1 April 2022.
- For Guidance Counselors. There are a growing number of English-taught degrees opening around the globe. Your grads no longer need look just at the “Big Four” English-speaking countries (Australia, Canada, the UK and the US) for college as this article explains in [The Expansion of English-taught degrees.](#)
- For Earth Science teachers. The [Twisted Surface of the Sun](#). Wow!!!
- For Bible Teachers. [Biblical Archaeology's Top 10 Discoveries of 2021](#). Very interesting.
- And finally, have you ever wondered about the funny names of those IKEA products in your home? Wonder no longer, [here](#) and [here](#). I think it's awesome, and still funny.

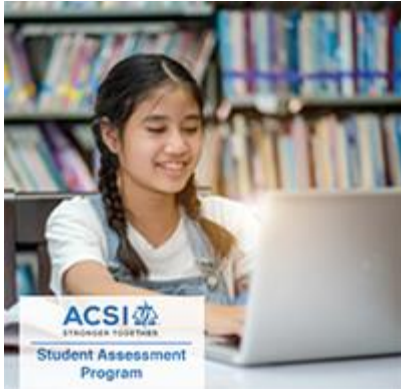
**Headship Openings Only**

- Asuncion Christian Academy, Paraguay. [Learn more here.](#)
- Caspian Academy, Azerbaijan. [Learn more here.](#)
- Christian Academy of Japan, Tokyo, Japan. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** El Camino Academy, Bogota, Colombia. [Learn more here.](#)
- Evangelical Christian Academy, Spain. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** Faith International Academy, Philippines. [Learn more here.](#)
- Greater Lisbon Christian Academy, Portugal. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** International School of Lima, Peru. [Learn more here.](#)
- Holy Lands Ministry Schools, Israel. [Learn more here.](#)
- Hope Academy, Bishkek. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** Sahel Academy, Niger. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** Sekolah Pelita Harapan, Lippo Cikarang, Indonesia. [Learn more here.](#)
- Ukarumpa International Academy, Papua New Guinea. [Learn more here.](#)
- Other head searches by GSCG. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** Due to a pressing need we are listing three open Principal positions at Kigali Community School. [Learn more here.](#)

If you have a head of school opening coming up, please let me know. Be sure to check our list of [member schools' vacancy pages](#) as well as the [ACSI Job Board](#).

## Early Education

Happy New Year! As we closed out 2020, we had such hope for 2021, but I am not sure it was the relief we expected. However, I pray that, like me, you are learning to take each moment as an opportunity to serve the Lord and His Kingdom. Our Christian walk is not based on circumstances but on the unfailing promises of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is our Provider, Healer, Protector, Sustainer, and Good Shepherd! He brings New Life, and January is a wonderful time to focus on this fresh new start. We come out of the joyful season of Christmas with a firm foundation of Christ's love for us as He came to earth as a humble baby to be our Savior. As the new year begins, we set our eyes on things to come. At ACSI, the EE Team is getting ready for the **EE Leaders' Summit and the EE Virtual Conferences.** [Read More](#)



Secure your spring testing materials now. Make connections to improve student achievement by connecting with the ACSI [Student Assessment Program today!](#)

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Make plans to attend **Converge Global Leadership Summit** March 8-10, 2022 in beautiful San Diego. See the speakers, schedule, and more [here](#).

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ACSI's "Leading Insights: Special Education and Inclusion," features experts in theology, research, and



God designed us for relationship. Explore how to foster stronger relationships in your school community to create a caring environment that promotes flourishing the way God intends at the [ACSI one-day event at COVERGE March 8](#). Perfect for all school leadership levels, gain a deeper understanding of the relationship domain (part of ACSI's Flourishing School Culture Model) utilizing ACSI's Communities of Practice approach that combines engaging learning, discussion, and action planning. Register today [here](#).



We are excited to release "Flourishing Together: A Christian Vision for Students, Educators, and Schools" by ACSI's Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer Dr. Lynn Swaner along with Deputy Chief Education Officer for the

practice in serving students with disabilities in the Christian school setting. The authors share new insights on how Christian schools can create cultures of belonging and mutual care that reflect God's heart for all children, and in doing so, shine a beacon of hope for families in their communities. [Learn more here.](#)

Church of England Andy Wolfe.  
[Download](#) the first chapter now!



ACSI is joining forces with Campus to advance Christ-centered education by providing global, 24/7 access to a revolutionary digital platform housing professional development, course offerings, and more. Learn more [here.](#)