



### International

# Message from your Regional Director

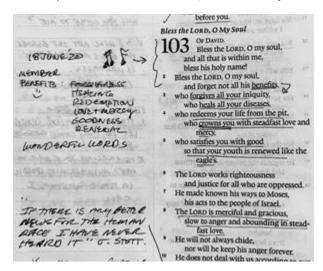
#### Fellow International Christian Educator,

Just before the pandemic emerged, I received a new Journaling Bible for Christmas, you know, the kind with large empty margins. Little did I know how meaningful that Bible would be in the coming year. I started out 2020 in my new Bible with a typical reading plan, but when COVID uncertainty hit us all, I switched my reading plan and turned to the Psalms as a source of comfort and assurance. I was not alone in that switch. I still remember what Josh Keegan, Superintendent of iSC Schools said on a Zoom call back then, "In reading through the Psalms, it's like God has been reading our emails". I had the very same feeling chapter after chapter.

Before I jump to one of my margin-notes during that time, I thought I would mention that membership renewal is starting this month at ACSI. Naturally, we like to remind you of your membership benefits. You can see the general benefits <a href="here">here</a> and the specific benefits for international schools <a href="here">here</a>. Last year around this time, I noticed that some of our international schools were not taking full advantage of their ACSI benefits leading me to question, "Have they forgotten what their benefits are?" One of these days, we will do a better job of communicating those benefits to you, but until then it is our privilege to find ways to serve you well in your mission, purpose and calling.

I mention ACSI membership because one year ago, on 18 June 2020, I read Psalm 103. As I read the first six verses of that chapter, I couldn't help but write in that wide margin in my Bible, "Member Benefits" along with a little smiley face beside verse 2 that says, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits..." In the margin I wrote:

"Forgiveness, Healing, Redemption, Love and Mercy, Goodness, and Renewal". These benefits, more important than ACSI benefits, are ones that you and I must not forget!



The wonderful news is that the member benefits David wrote about in Psalm 103 do not expire, you don't have to renew them, they are already paid for, and they are yours in Christ Jesus. Unfortunately, however, like ACSI benefits, David knew that we would occasionally need reminding of all that is ours.

Summer break is soon upon us. I pray that you will find time to "unstring the bow" this summer.

Blessings upon you.

Tim S

"May you feel the joy of God's face shining on you because he is happy to be with you!" - Wilder and Hendricks in The Other Half of Church.

Tim Shuman for the International School Team

Follow on Twitter: @tpshuman @acsiintlschools @acsiglobal @acsiusa

<u>Tim Shuman, Regional Director, International Schools</u>
<u>Caitlin Taylor, Global Activity & International Events Coordinator</u> to Tim S
<u>Tim Thompson, Associate Regional Director</u>
<u>Kimberly Park, Executive Assistant to Tim T</u>

## **Coming Up**

- <u>PFO2Go</u> (PreField Orientation) online course is open for registrations for your new incoming staff. To help you better understand what PFO2Go is we created a brandnew page of <u>Course FAQs</u>. As of today, we are celebrating that over 90 new staff in your schools have signed up to take the course. Remember it's available anytime, anywhere but check out the FAQs to learn more. <u>REGISTER NOW</u>.
- Job Fairs 2021/22. Staff recruitment for international schools never really ends and has no summer breaks. Likewise, we are working hard to bring you two virtual fairs and one inperson fair tour this fall and winter.
  - In-person Fairs will be held on the campuses of Grand Canyon University, Liberty University, and Baylor University this fall. GCU is locked in on November 1-2, but we are waiting for confirmation for LU and BU who have made commitments to host a fair on their campuses. Date range: 25 Oct - 2 Nov 2021. Look for your invitation to join as soon as we have all dates in hand.
  - o Fall Virtual Job Fair is definitely a go as 16-17 November 2021.
  - Winter Virtual Job Fair is also confirmed for 1-2 March 2022.
- Imagine bringing ICEC Asia right on to your campus! <u>VIRTUAL ICEC Asia</u> will be held 25-26 November 2021. Going VIRTUAL means many more Christian educators can experience ICEC right where they live and teach. ICEC Virtual will be held LIVE over two days and accessible across several time zones covering schools from Kazakhstan to Papua New Guinea, and Seoul to Jakarta. We will be bringing you the same great inperson content: engaging and inspiring keynote speakers, small-group discussions (virtual and local), and a myriad of excellent LIVE teacher-to-teacher workshops wherever you are.
- We are still working on ICEC Europe for 7-9 April 2022. Thank you to leaders in Europe and Africa for your feedback on in-person vs virtual. An invitation will follow soon with all details.

### Resources

- The ACSI Europe <u>Student Leadership Conference 2021</u> is coming up this fall. Student leaders from your international school are welcome to attend this wonderful national event.
- Dr. Parrott, President of Belhaven University, recently wrote, "God has uniquely blessed Belhaven University during this time of Covid challenges, and so we are offering a unique scholarship to boost Christian education around the world." Check out the amazing

scholarships he is offering just to international Christian school graduates. <u>Learn more here.</u>

- Check out this <u>Research Opportunity</u> for current or aspiring women leaders in Christian schools. "The purpose of this study is to explore the effects of women in Christian school leadership as experienced by current and aspiring women leaders."
- ACSI research just posted findings on <u>Sabbath Practices and Well-Being in Christian Schools</u>.
- It's graduation season and that means transition. This article, "<u>Loving Students Through</u> Transition" is both helpful and practical.
- The latest TCK Interact e-magazine (Interaction International) is <u>now available</u>. It's all good, but the last page of Quick Resources on TCK/MK care is worth a look.
- I found these helpful: <u>Should Christians Take the Vaccine</u> (video) with Dr. Francis Collins, and The COVID Vaccine and Christian Unity.
- Wait, what? How Much Does Prayer Weigh? Yep, you read that right.
- Everyone is wondering about this, <u>Leaving a Jet Plane</u>, some thoughts about an issue that mission agencies will be facing over the next few years.
- The Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership recently posted a large study they did on <u>Christian Leadership in Schools</u>.
- What are friends for? This 10 second video is worth putting on repeat. Did these two bees really work together to open that bottle of Fanta?
- This is the big smile you've been waiting for, the Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards <u>funniest entries for 2021</u>. Enjoy and show your kids/students the past winners <u>here</u>.

## **Headship Openings Only**

- Asuncion Christian Academy, Paraguay. Learn more here.
- Caspian Academy, Azerbaijan. Learn more here.
- Greater Lisbon Christian Academy, Portugal. Learn more here.
- Holy Lands Ministry Schools, Israel. <u>Learn more here</u>.
- Ukarumpa International Academy, Papua New Guinea. Learn more here.

Be sure to check our list of member schools' vacancy pages as well as the ACSI Job Board.

### **ACSI News**





# Early Bird Registration Open NOW for CONVERGE 2022

Early bird registration is open for Converge 2022 (Global Christian School Leadership Summit), to be held March 8-10, 2022, in San Diego at the Town and Country Resort. Register now through this summer at the discounted price, and be sure to book your hotel reservations (at the link provided) as rooms have sold out early at previous summits. ACSI is a host association for the event along with eleven other organizations in the US, Canada, Australia, and the UK.

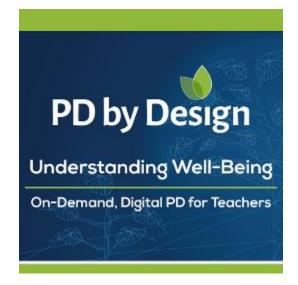
Visit <a href="https://converge.education/">https://converge.education/</a> for more information.

FLOURISHING School Culture

Advance Christ-centered education with greater health and excellence in the upcoming FY21/22 school year with the **ACSI Flourishing School Culture** Instrument (FSCI). Using a dynamic online platform, the FSCI—based on rigorous research in Christian schools, and independently validated through Cardus Education—measures culture-level strengths and opportunities for growth by surveying seven distinct groups in your school community. Then, participate in the Flourishing School Institute to dig deeper and develop a transformational action plan using your data. Sign up with our research team now and save \$200 on the FSCI administration using promo code FSCI200.

Register now and save with special early bird pricing for the Converge Global Christian School Leadership Summit in San Diego March 8-10, 2022.

YOU MADE IT! This past school year has likely been one of the hardest ever for educators. As you begin to plan and look ahead to a new school year, ACSI would like to encourage you and your leadership team to join us in a transformational iourney of flourishing the way God intends. Based on a biblical foundation and rigorous research. ACSI has created a framework in which to measure key areas that matter to Christ-centered education success along with a professional development experience to glean perspective and create a plan for your unique school community. Read more about the research, model, instrument, and Flourishing Schools Institute locations here.



Create a professional development opportunity for your team on "Understanding Well-being" with PD By Design. It's 6 hours of flexible training to encourage and equip your teachers with CEUs available. Choose a date and schedule that works for your school and advance Christ-centered education with excellence.

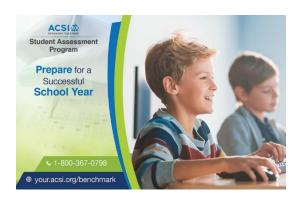


There's a free 10-hour professional development for Christian educators on teaching worldviews, culture, and culture engagement. Begin today and earn CEU credits.



#### From the Care Team

Upcoming Membership Invoices for the 21/22 school year will now be available after June 15 so that you can better plan for budgeting. To prepare, please update your enrollment numbers and key school contacts. We have created a helpful user guide to assist you.



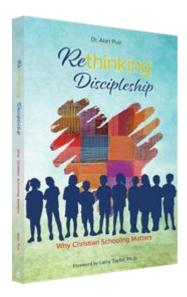
The ACSI Student Assessment Program provides multiple options for benchmark, admissions, and instructional placement testing (including Iowa Single Subject, Iowa Survey, IowaFlex, and Map Suite). Also, the Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test (IAAT) assesses students' readiness for Algebra I. Prepare for a Successful School Year at your.acsi.org/benchmark.



Spring Savings is here for Purposeful Design Publications textbooks and resources. Order now and save with deferred payment until September. Review the sample for the new Elementary Science, Grade 1 and our new Language Arts textbooks. Discovery Education Experience has K-12 student activities and instructional inspiration to enhance your classroom. For middle or high school students, our friends at AXIS have culturally-relevant content and the Ron Blue Institute has a Biblical Personal Finance Curriculum that fits well into a bible, leadership or health class.



Access the latest accreditation and certification information from the most recent <u>Academic Services Newsletters</u>. If you have questions about accreditation, our <u>Divisional Accreditation Teams</u> would be happy to assist!



Explore the importance of shepherding a child's heart by looking at the biblical principles that should drive behavior, values and beliefs in Dr. Alan Pue's new book "Rethinking Discipleship".

Download a first chapter and sign up for the summer book club today.

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