

Place

“In My Father’s house there are many dwelling places (homes). If it were not so, I would have told you. John 14:2 (AMP)

Our place makes home for several dozen boys and girls so they can move beyond current confusions and conflict: an environment in which every child knows that they belong. I chose the word “place” intentionally. In the world, “place has never been less consequential,” (Wells, *No Place for Truth*, Eerdmans 1993) but the Lord says, “In my Father’s house there are



Birchler Dorm residents with their dorm family, the Barons

many dwelling places.” A site of dissonance, a point of impact with the world; to not give way means to say, “This place has consequence” and by our behavior to furnish a real proof.

One Ancient Hope, a church in nearby Iowa City, purposely chose a place there. Its pastor writes, “as an internationally recognized City of Literature, our community declares the magnificence and diversity of creativity....” Let that hang there for a moment:

internationally recognized ... a city in Iowa declares. He continues, “As Christians, we are called to seek the welfare of the city that we live in. That is exactly the purpose for which One Ancient Hope has come to Iowa City “to seek the welfare of one of the greatest cultural cities in the world ... offering real answers.” What he expresses is: Get Real, Say and Do.

Cono too holds ground at a point of impact with the world. A place purposely chosen, I believe. There is the same requirement to seek the welfare of the place to which we are sent, and the promise that in its welfare to find our welfare: a place of consequence. If it were NOT so....

· We live in secure close relationships with other people’s children (so that they, and we, can say “I belong”).

· We lead and draw out the intellect, physical skill and the arts (so that they, and we, can say “I know and can believe”).

· We are sustained through community in work and worship and act and speak in the world (we have “purpose, direction and continuity”).

Are the effects visible?

One of our dorm girls, having been denied an overreaching request when talking to her mother, turned to my wife and said, “My mom won’t give me what I need. She is nothing like you. She is WAY TOO OLD to understand me.”

My wife asked, “Really, just how old IS she?” “She’s **! ... Ooh.”

Out of place. In place.

Thomas Jahl, Headmaster



Real grace.



Jean Belz

When the time came to decide where I should be in my declining years, all my children—and there are many—were very kind. I was on the verge of packing up when we realized a move might not be necessary after all. Other folks have stayed in their houses and I am blessed with help on every side in the Cono community. The people of the church and school rose to the occasion to help me at 90 years of age.

Some folks wouldn’t care for the advantages I have had. I love having a guest room that is nearly always available to parents of students, visitors, family. If I don’t make it so, I miss out on making a host of friends. Little girls come with the first blooms of spring—on sale for just a few cents. Little boys come looking for a job expecting only a small wage. Students come for an interview concerning my life on campus. Neighbors come in

Jean Belz with her husband Max, founded Cono Christian School in 1951. She taught English literature and Latin to teenagers for more than 50 years. She also helped build a family: eight children, 31 grandchildren, and 30 great grandchildren.

for cookies and coffee. A grandson comes home from work, weary but cheerful. A granddaughter plays all her piano contest selections. A neighbor boy fills my wood box. What treats! The mail comes. There’s a fresh e-mail. On a mild day, I can walk to church.

IT TAKES A (CARING) VILLAGE

A tasty supper comes in from the school kitchen, graciously delivered, no grudging. And there are no complaints about the weather. Nothing is better than a crowd barging in armed with hymn books and spending an hour in

a capella singing—unless it’s a special group of boys or girls practicing their latest choir song. A son and his wife look after business affairs and errands—cheerfully, lovingly.

I can still direct the affairs of my house so I am glad to be here. When I can’t, may I praise God for keeping me in His own way. He is faithful.

AROUND THE VILLAGE



Zach and Fred chill in the Hearth Room, while the girls of Roskamp do so in a different way



CONO CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
3269 Quasqueton Ave., Walker, IA 52352-9623

Real grace.

CONO GRADS DOING THE JOB



Keith Brooks came to Cono in eighth grade because his mother had fallen severely ill with Multiple Sclerosis, literally unable to care for her son. His father was a Presbyterian pastor in Pennsylvania. Though not always the happiest camper at school, he complied with the rules, took his “initiation” from upper classmen without much resistance, and made it through to graduation from Cono in 1977. He married Annette Benson from Rowley, Iowa. They resided in rural Aurora, Iowa. Keith worked as a fur broker, farmer, electrician, and started his own produce truck farm business. Today Keith is a buyer and account executive for Capital City Fruit Company near Des Moines. Hy-Vee and Fareway are two of the accounts he manages. Keith and Annette have two sons, Dustin, 23 and Clinton, 21.

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Valentine Day kisses for the whole student body, and staff, ready for distribution

Our people doing the job

Name	Elisabeth Winkler
Education	B.A., Messiah College (History); M.Ed. Covenant College
Experience	7+ years
Hometown	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Position at Cono	Academic Dean, Teaching junior high social studies, geography, government/economics, French 3
Family	Two parents, one brother, two sisters, one brother-in-law, one sister-in-law, three nieces
Hobbies / Interests	Books, movies, gardens, cooking
Interesting story	I am a dual citizen (U.S. & Switzerland), born on January 1.
Why Cono?	Cono community, international students, redemptive mission



Goal this year . . .

Make students fluent in French; teach them active, literate citizenship
Liz Winkler keeps things in good order so that young people can be helped and grow

Key dates

March 5-6
Musical: The King and I; Parents' Day

March 12-22
Spring Break/
Choir Tour

April 18
Home Choir
Concert

June 4
Commencement

Urgent needs

Are you interested in working at Cono? Check our website for details (www.cono.org/involved.html) or e-mail thomasjahl@cono.org

Our mission

In Christ Jesus' name we offer hope, through relationship and structure in an international boarding and day school environment, preparing young people to unite faith and life.

Living Memorials

have been given to help young people at Cono

For Nick Barker
by Jean Belz, Walker, Iowa

For Robert Birchler
by Darlene and George Birchler, Selma, Alabama

For Charlie Hewlett
by Jean Belz
by Andrew and Mary Anna Belz

For Esther Kinch
by Donna Sheffield, San Jose, California
by Jean Belz, Walker, Iowa

For Everett Kropp, of Crookston, Minn.
by Dan and Liz Gardner, Rowley, Iowa
by Jean Belz, Walker, Iowa

For Nickolas Peterson
by Dan and Liz Gardner, Rowley, Iowa

For Mae Roskamp
by Dave and Laurie Lempia, Center Point, Iowa
by Jean Belz
by Mary Anna and Andrew Belz, Walker, Iowa

by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dieter
Cedar Falls, Iowa
by Linda Hibben Cedar Falls, Iowa
by Fern Oman Cedar Falls, Iowa
by Mr. and Mrs. A. Miller Roskamp
Cedar Falls, Iowa
by Mrs. Jacob Kortenhoeven
Highland, Indiana
by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Barnett
Dayton, Tennessee
by Nat and Mindy Belz
Asheville, NC

For Roy Wright
by Karen Wright, Coggon, Iowa

To Honor Bill and Susan Gericke
by Karen Wright, Coggon, Iowa



Tree for little Emma Graves
Tree for Wendell Graves
Trees for Bentley and Jodi Graves
Tree for Karen Simpson
all by Sidonie Graves,
Independence, Iowa



History's landmarks on campus: right, the original Arnold House, built in 1890s, and left, the original Cono South school house

Homecoming 2010 – July 24 on campus

Choir Tour 2010

Sunday, February 28 at 1:30 p.m.
Covenant Church
Attn. Andrew Cheatham
2009 Crescent Drive
Cedar Falls IA 50613
319-268-4235
accheatham@yahoo.com

Sunday, March 7 at 6 p.m.
Peace Christian Reformed Church
Attn. Gary Brouwers
6600 C Ave. N.E.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
319-377-6600
peacechrev@msn.com

Friday, March 12, 7 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Attn. Josh Haveman
51 Highway M
Villa Ridge MO 63089
636-259-6582
admin@crosspointchristianschool.org

Sunday, March 14, 8:15 & 10:50 a.m.
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Attn. Paul Magyar
33 Burton Hills Boulevard
Nashville TN 37215
615-383-2206
paulm@covenantpres.com

Sunday, March 14 6:30 p.m.
Covenant Reformed Pres. Church
Attn. Carol Belz
281 Edgewood Road
Asheville NC 28804
828-253-6578
ceb392@mac.com

Monday, March 15 at 7 p.m.
Chapel of the Prodigal
Attn. Carter Blaisdell
310 Gaither Circle
Montreat NC 28757
828-669-7733
2carterb@bellsouth.net

Tuesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m.
McLean Presbyterian Church
Attn. Sara Raak
1020 Balls Hill Road
McLean VA 22301
571-216-8968
SRaak@ddcadvocacy.com

Wednesday, March 17, 7 p.m.
Providence Presbyterian Church
Attn. Mae Higgins
309 Parker Road
Salisbury MD 21801
410-546-0577
machigg@yahoo.com

Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m.
Back Mtn. Harvest Asbly. of God
Attn. Marci Mitchell
340 Carverton Road
Trucksville PA 18708
570-696-1128
Glory2God6@frontiernet.net

Friday, March 19, 1:30 p.m.
Quarryville Presbyterian Home
625 Robert Fulton Highway
Quarryville, PA 17566-1400
717-786-5270
donovanga@quarryville.com

Friday, March 19, 7:30 p.m.
Calvary Orthodox Pres. Church
Attn. Jeannette Jones
734 Willow Grove Ave.
Glenside PA 19038
267-625-5408
diberjones@gmail.com

Sunday, March 21, 9:15 a.m.
(Worship & Concert after)
Harvest Presbyterian Church
Attn. Michele Harris
48 Conestega Drive
Lancaster PA 17537
717-285-2214
maharrisclan@aol.com

Sunday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m.
First Reformed Presbyterian Church
Attn. Walt Turner
12900 Frankstown Road
Pittsburgh PA 15235-1998
412-793-7117
Walt@TurnerDairy.net

Sunday, April 11 in the a.m.
Church of Christ
Attn. Lenny Power
306 East Street
Brandon IA 52210
319-929-5604
lnthlt@indytel.com

THINK
LONG TERM.

If you support the Cono mission with a monthly or annual gift, you can sustain that gift by remembering Cono in your will.

Did you realize that you can sustain a \$25 monthly gift until Jesus returns by planning one \$6,000 gift into your estate? A \$6 million bequest yields \$300,000 per year.

What do you want to do with your life, your capacity, and your gifts? How do you want to change the world for good, and leave it a better place than you found it?

If you have questions about how to do this more effectively, you may call or write the Development Office, Cono Christian School, 3269 Quasqueton Ave., Walker, IA 52352. Tel. 319-651-5815, or e-mail andrew.belz@cono.org.