Imagine a sweltering Wisconsin summer with temperatures breaking 100 degrees. Wouldn’t a trip to “the land of eternal spring” and the land that “flourishes in the shade” sound wonderful? This July twenty-six FVL Spanish students and their teachers traveled to Guatemala and Belize to practice their Spanish and experience the culture of these Central American countries.

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Recent FVL graduate Molly Page found it "amazing to step out of the Wisconsin bubble and experience what it's like to live in a culture completely different from ours." One of her highlights was the chance to visit a pair of schools and play fútbol (soccer in America) with the students. Another eye-opener for Molly was how few of the people there know Jesus as their Savior. She felt she needed to "take every opportunity to bring them to Him" by sharing her faith.

David Sehloff, another 2012 graduate, was struck by God's amazing creation that ranged from "highland forests, to active volcanos, rain-forests, a river in a cave, and barrier reefs." This new "array of smells and tastes" helped him gain a new perspective on God's love.

From the crowded market places to eating a private dinner with a Mayan family, David, too, was challenged to share his faith.

David, Molly, and the rest of the tour group had the unique chance to meet people from a culture quite different than ours in America. They discovered that while the setting may be different - both groups have lives filled with both obstacles and victories. Reflecting on this "extraordinary" opportunity, their hearts and minds were touched by how "God's love is for all the people of all the world of all time." May it remind us to be even more thankful to have our students be hearing about God's saving love every day at FVL.

— Isaiah Degner
Students, faculty, and staff celebrated Welcome Week with a variety of dress-up days.

FVL welcomes three new members to its staff this year. Mr. Craig Charron will be serving as FVL’s Guidance Director. He will also teach psychology and coach JV girls’ basketball. Previously Craig was the principal of Nebraska Lutheran High School. He and his wife Angie have four children and are members at St. Peter, Freedom.

Mrs. Ann Klemm will teach two sections of Advanced Chemistry and one Biology this year. She previously has taught chemistry at Menasha High School. She and her husband Kevan have two children and are members at St. John, Center.

Mr. Nathan Miller has been hired as a member of the custodial staff. He and his wife Lauren live in Kaukauna.

FVL students and their parents will have new tools beginning this year to help with choosing schools and preparing for career goals. Under the leadership of the Guidance department, students and teachers will be introduced to Naviance, a new college and career readiness software tool designed to help connect academic achievement to career goals.

Over the summer, Guidance Counselors Pat Schabo and Tom Guenterberg attended training sessions in Arizona. They are excited about the possibilities as they look at implementing this system for the benefit of students at all grade levels.

**Naviance Offers Career Guidance**

FVL’s 9th Annual FoxFest Dinner Auction is on Saturday, Oct. 13. This year, enjoy a journey to the Empire City: New York, NY! Stroll among fantastic items up for bid as you savor the sights, sounds, and tastes of New York City. Five gourmet entrees and two dessert stations await you. Invite your friends and join us for this spectacular event!

Tickets are available in the FVL office for $50 each/$90 per couple ($75 each after Sept. 24). All proceeds benefit FVL’s teen ministry.
The 2012 ACT scores have been released. Fox River Valley schools continue to lead our state in ACT scores. The graph at the right shows how FVL seniors fared compared to the state average of 22.1 and the national average of 21.0. FVL’s 24.4 score is up from 24.1 last year.

According to statistics published in the *Appleton Post-Crescent*, the scores of the FVL seniors were tied for the best among all schools in the Fox River Valley.

Praise the Lord for the solid education these students are receiving in the FVL Schools system. Remember, too, that ACT scores are only one measure of the total high school experience at FVL where our mission shares God’s Word with teens on a daily basis.

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**Fall Sports News...**

The FVL girls’ golf team is off to a strong start. The team brought home trophy hardware from several major competitions in August and early September.

The Foxes football team brought home the Apple Bowl trophy with a gritty performance against Xavier. The Foxes triumphed 17-9 on their rival’s home turf.

The boys’ soccer team is working hard to win another EVC conference championship. In volleyball, Sept. 13th was a special night as the school hosted a grade school volleyball camp with players from Martin Luther College before their home game against Ripon.

FVL’s ball diamonds are getting a needed make-over thanks to the work of an Ad Hoc Committee. The drilling of a well and installation of a sprinkler system will keep the grass and infields green. The baseball infield was sodded and the outfield leveled and seeded. The hope is for the diamonds to be ready in spring.

Thanks to the many volunteers who assisted. Financial support for this project is needed. Donations are tax deductible and should be designated to FVL. Thanks for your support.
The efforts of the FVL Schools continue to expand ways to share the positive message of Christian education. Over summer, exciting steps were taken as many principals partnered to improve the education offered in their schools. Over a dozen FVL Schools will be implementing the McRel Power Walkthru of classroom observation to help all teachers become better teachers and to evaluate instruction at their schools.

Plans are also underway for a special joint service project among the schools to pack meals for starving children in the Dominican Republic. The target dates are April 25-26. This "Willing Hands - Thankful Hearts" Service Project will be featured as the mission project in many of our schools as the children seek to raise the $50,000 needed to supply 285,000 meals for those in need. Watch for more info as the Steering Committee solidifies plans in mid-September.

Another popular event that will be featured this spring is the 2nd annual Daddy-Daughter Dance. Dads, save the date of March 3 for this fun day to be with your princesses. Last year's was a huge success and we are planning to make this year's event bigger and better.

**Financial Focus**

Praise the Lord for the thousands of generous supporters who enabled us to close the 2011-12 financial year with a balanced budget!

- While tuition receipts were less than expected, congregation offerings exceeded commitments by $16,000. Also, gifts from individual donors and the FVL Friends group exceeded what was budgeted.

- Expenses were trimmed to finish 2% under budget mainly due to savings on utilities and health insurance.

- The modest budget surplus was transferred to the track upgrades (completed in 2011) and to the upgrades for the baseball-softball fields (underway). Additional gifts are needed to fund these projects.

- *Growing in Grace* offerings totaled $330,000 for the year. The annual goal is $300,000. The debt has been reduced to $2,835,000 and is on track to be retired by 2020.
Enrollment update
Enrollment for the incoming freshmen (Class of 2016) is 121. Total enrollment stands at 543 — down from last year’s 568. Fifty-one international students are members of this year’s student body.

Leadership Initiative
A new Christian leadership curriculum was introduced to FVL students at orientation in August. Students who chose to enroll are eligible to earn transcripted credits in leadership at a variety of levels.

Fall play in October
This October the FVL Theatre will be performing and old-time melodrama, *A Penny Saved or The Widow Rootstock, Fullo Loded*. This production will be directed by Rev. Leon Ehlert. Join us to boo and hiss the villain and sigh over the heroine! See the calendar below for dates and times.

Homecoming 2013
The Homecoming Frolic (student talent show) and Crowning of the Queen will take place on Wednesday, September 26 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Homecoming football game will be played on Friday, September 28 at 7 p.m. vs. Winneconne.

Coaches needed
Assistant coaches are needed for wrestling, girls’ soccer and softball. Contact Athletic Director Gene Strusz at gstrusz@fvlhs.org for more information.

Financial Aid Grants
More than $335,000 in tuition assistance was granted to over 125 students. The FVL Foundation provides $145,000 of the grant money, while the remainder comes from gifts, the Dinner Auction, and other sources. Gifts for financial aid are always appreciated and are tax deductible.

Scrip cuts school costs
FVL’s Scrip program continues to be a popular choice for parents seeking to save tuition dollars. Anyone can enroll in the Scrip program to sponsor a student or even benefit FVL’s Tuition Assistance program.

Veterans Day at FVL
With Veterans Day falling on the weekend this year, FVL will be marking its observance and breakfast on Monday, Nov. 12. Save the date and plan to make it part of your day.

### Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Board Meeting</td>
<td>Sept. 25</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>FVL Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homecoming Frolic</td>
<td>Sept. 26</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homecoming Football</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>vs. Winneconne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foxfest Dinner Auction</td>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Commons/Gym</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Sacred Concert (Band &amp; Choir)</td>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>FVL Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>FVL Theatre - <em>A Penny Saved</em> (Melodrama)</td>
<td>Oct. 19-20</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>FVL Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reformation Service</td>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>FVL Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterans Day Breakfast &amp; Program</td>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>FVL Commons</td>
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