

Dear Woodland Families,

As we prepare to welcome students and families back for a new school year in September, there is a special sense of excitement throughout the Woodland community. This year marks **Woodland Christian High School's 50th Anniversary**—a significant milestone that gives us the opportunity to celebrate God's faithfulness, honour the many people who have shaped our school over the past five decades, and look ahead with excitement to the future.

As part of this milestone celebration, we are thrilled to let you know that we will once again hold our **Annual Dessert & Benefit Auction on Saturday, October 17, 2026**. This event promises to be an evening of celebration as we commemorate **50 years of Christian education** together.

In recognition of this significant anniversary, we have set an ambitious fundraising goal of **\$50,000 in support of the Woodland Tuition Assistance Fund**. These funds will help ensure that more families continue to have access to a Christ-centred education.

We've compiled this letter to outline how you and your family can get involved in celebrating with us at this important event.

Ways to Get Involved:

1. Donate Auction Items

A successful silent auction depends on the variety and quality of items up for bid, and that's where we need your help! Donations can come from your family, local businesses, or community connections.

Some donation ideas include (New, handmade, or regifted in original packaging):

- **Shop tools, kitchen gadgets, toys, coffee table books**
- **Christmas décor, garden tools, hobby supplies**
- **Meat & cheese boards, live plants, pet accessories**
- **Gift cards, concert or sports tickets, themed baskets**
- **Experiences like a weekend getaway or a private dinner party**

A [Business Letter Package](#) is available to share with potential supporters to help you with donation requests. Complete a [Donation Receipt Form for every item](#) to help us track donations and credit your family with Involved Parent Network (IPN) hours.

Donation Drop-off:

Items should be delivered to the school by **Monday, October 5th**. Perishable items can be brought in on **Friday, October 16th, between 12:00 and 4:00 PM** (please notify the office in advance).

Volunteer hours will be awarded for donations in accordance with IPN guidelines.

2. Donate a Homemade Decadent Dessert for the Auction

The **Dessert Auction** is always a highlight of the evening, and we need your help filling the table with DECADENT DESSERTS! Popular items include:

Layered Cakes or Tortes
Cream-Based or Chocolate Desserts, Truffles, Flans
Tarts and Patisseries
Homemade Boterkoek, Pies and Cheesecakes

Please sign up using the provided link and tell us what you'll contribute. We encourage you to submit a photo of your dessert in advance — and, of course, we suggest a family taste test before the event!

Three volunteer hours will be awarded for each dessert submitted to the live auction (a limit of two per family). Cupcakes, baked goods, and loaves may be placed in the silent auction.

3. Volunteer to Help Plan and Run the Event

There are various ways to participate in the auction, both before the event and on auction night. Roles include:

- Media and letter writing
- Decoration and set-up crews
- Item pick-ups and tagging
- Auction and event coordination
- PowerPoint and media support
- Sponsor and donation follow-ups
- Cashiers and item organizers
- Welcome desk greeters
- Cake display help and runners
- Auctioneer spotters and purchase recorders
- Coffee and beverage servers and kitchen assistants
- Registration support

If you can assist, don't hesitate to contact Jennifer Zarnke in the school office at j.zarnke@woodland.on.ca or 519-648-2114, ext. 144.

4. Invite Your Friends & Family

Mark your calendars and spread the word! The more people who attend, the more successful the evening will be. The auction website will be released in early October and shared through the school website, Instagram, Facebook, and email. Plan to fill a table and invite 8-10 of your friends and family.

Thank You for Supporting Woodland!

Events like this are only possible because of the wonderful families who make up our Woodland community. Your generosity, time, and involvement help make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students and families.

Together in Christ,

Mary Dollar

Auction Coordinator and the Woodland Auction Committee

