

The Mission

"To praise the Lord our God is the heartbeat of our mission..."



November 2009

Building a solid foundation for future generations through quality elementary Christian education.

Happy Autumn 2009! As we watch the trees turn to miraculous colors, we are reminded of God's greatness and his tapestry of beauty on earth.

Each week I send out a 'Thought for The Week' to our faculty. It helps us to remain focused and usually has to do with our annual theme.



I recently came across a great reminder of how fortunate we are to have a Christian school where we truly can Praise God In All We Do!

Each day we do so many things at CHCS that promote spiritual growth, that we often take for granted because it is who we are as a school. This story is a wonderful reminder to me that the little things that focus on God is why CHCS has been changing lives and touching hearts for more than forty-two years.

My prayer is that after you read this you will be encouraged that through the ministry of Christian education God will transform the lives of students in ways we can not even imagine.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us!

The kindergarten that Leah attends is a branch of a Christian school in the area. When I asked Leah about her first day of school, the first thing she mentioned was the prayer circle.

The what? "The prayer circle is where Mrs. D asks if any of us wants to pray out loud. I didn't want to."

At this point I'm trying to wrap my brain around a prayer circle at school. You see, I went to a public school, attended two different colleges, one public and one private (although not Christian), and taught in the public schools for four and a half years.

I spent my teaching career trying to walk the fine line between openly being a Christian and respecting the whole separation of church and state thing. On the first day of school, I told all my students about my faith. I expected them to respect it as I respected theirs and to not use the Lord's name in vain. Once you set that as the line, there's a whole lot of other words that they automatically know

are off limits!

I occasionally played Christian songs while my students worked, albeit covert songs without "Christ" or "Jesus" actually in them. Amazingly and irritatingly, the only student to object was one from the youth group with which I volunteered! I mentioned attending church and working with the youth group whenever I legitimately could.

And still, when my daughter comes home from school singing songs about Jesus always being there for her or how they are a new creation in Christ just like butterflies start as caterpillars, it throws me for a loop.

They are going on a field trip to the grocery store next week as they talk about nutrition, and the Biblical theme is the Fruit of the Spirit. Of course. There is a Bible verse that they have to memorize each week, and I have volunteered to be one of the moms to listen to them recite on Friday mornings. Individually, in the hallway, with a plus, checkmark, or O next to their name. This is official, ya'll.

Also, about those verses. They start off with, and periodically return to, easy ones like "Jesus said, Let the little children come to me..." (Matt 19:14a) Then, there are selections that are two verses. Or a whole Psalm! People, seriously. I doubt that I could memorize some of these things. But moms of past kindergartners assure me that they will be able to do it. Insane.

My husband grew up in a Christian school, but Leah and I are new to this whole thing. More so, in fact, since this is all she knows. I am sure she will grow up with much more knowledge in her faith, and hopefully a stronger faith. And I am thanking God (in the school and outside of it) that she is able to attend a school such as this one!

Praising God for CHCS,
Greg McAbee
Administrator

- Portion in italics taken from *Modern Day Jane*

Enjoy the City Savings Book!

Our goal was 1,000 -- 1,020 books were sold! Thank you to all CHCS families and staff who participated in this new fund raising event!

OUR MISSION

Building a solid foundation for future generations through quality elementary Christian education.

A Message from the Board

Building a solid foundation for future generations through quality Christian education requires a daily living commitment fulfilled through Christ focused objectives and actions. The Chapel Hill Christian School Board is committed to communicating our vision and strategy toward continual improvement in all aspects of our mission.

A key component of our adopted strategy requires facility enhancement to support a longer term vision for the expansion and addition of school programs. To address the objectives of this strategy, the board has recently formed a subcommittee specifically focused on exploring facility enhancements or expansions to augment planned enrollment growth and school programs.

We have truly been blessed with a tremendous Christ centered school for more than forty years. CHCS is completely debt free and continues to provide one of the best Christian academic programming available to our local community. This is especially praiseworthy given the current state of our economy and its impact on our families. While we continue to pursue new opportunities for the school, we simply ask that you join us in regular prayer for the direction and plan that God desires for His school.

Robert Truthan, Secretary

Parenting Tip - Avoiding the Flu & Other Viruses

There are simple, common sense steps you and your children can take to reduce the likelihood of infection.

DO:

- Get your children in the habit of washing their hands often.
- Give your older children small, easy to carry bottles of alcohol-based anti-bacterial gel, like Purell.
- Teach children to sneeze into the crook of their elbow and not cover their mouths with their hands.
- Don't shake hands or come into close contact with someone who is sick.
- Children up to the age of 18 should get vaccinated with the seasonal flu vaccine and the new H1N1 flu vaccine when it's available.
- Keep your child's immunity up by making sure he/she gets enough sleep and by eating plenty of fruits and vegetables.

DON'T:

- If you suspect your child may be sick with the flu, don't send him/her to school. Keep your child home for at least 24 hours after the fever subsides.

- In most cases, there is no advantage, according to the CDC, in using a facemask in public. If you have a sick person in the home, a facemask may help decrease transmission - worn by either the sick or healthy person when getting close to each other.

- from www.BostonFamilyLife.com

Announcing Beacon's Best!

Chapel Hill Christian Preschool was ranked #5 in the Akron Beacon's Journal's, 2009 Beacon's Best award for best Preschool! After 7,800 ballots were cast, representing 40,000 votes in numerous categories including favorite stores, restaurants, and other service establishments throughout Summit county, CHCS was in the top 10 for Preschool programs!

Mrs. Vicki Jennings (Green campus) and Mrs. Gale Truthan (North campus) teach our 3 year old programs. They are also being recognized by CHCS as the Employee of the Month for their campus. We are blessed to have them both at CHCS as they continue to show great enthusiasm, creativity, and dedication in our Early Childhood Program.

We Are Listening

A special thank you to all the families who participated in the 2008-2009 Year End Parent Survey. We received valuable information based on your comments, ideas, and suggestions. We will be keeping you posted as we implement some of the wonderful ideas shared by our CHCS constituency. Look for the weekly 'DID YOU KNOW' section in the Parentscope and Horizon newsletters.

Communication - To Better Serve You

If you would like to receive school information, publications, and important information via email we are ready for you! Simply email: info@chapelhillchristianschool.org and tell us you would like to be on our Email Communication list. Please send a list of **all** email addresses you want to include and what campus your student(s) attend.

Our 'Leaders Serving Others' (LSO) Would Love to Hear From You

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