

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Honoring God through Academic Excellence

July 1, 2012

Is Christian Education Important?

Upcoming Dates

- Parent/Student Orientation, August 22 at 6:30 p.m.
- First day of school August 27.

A woman came into my office today to discuss enrolling her upcoming first grader. He had attended kindergarten in a local Christian school that did not have first grade, and she intended on enrolling him at her local public school for first grade. However, she decided to look at other options when she took her son to the public school and he wanted to know when during the day they got to hear Bible stories. When she told him that they wouldn't hear Bible stories in first grade, he wanted to know why not. When she explained to him that not all the children believed in Jesus, he stated that maybe they would if they read Bible stories at school! This mother of three told me that after her son made that statement, she understood how much school had influenced him, and she wanted to keep him in a Christian school if possible.

This mother is absolutely right in understanding that what is taught in school has a strong influence on our children. Jeff Keaton, Founder and CEO of Renewation (pronounced renew-a-nation), an organization devoted to providing a Christian worldview education to all children in America, asks this powerful question. "Would you send your child to a Muslim or Hindu school?" Keaton further states that he has never met a serious Christian who would send his child to a Muslim or Hindu

school because the parent would not want his child to grow up to become a Muslim or a Hindu but would want his child to grow up to become a Christian (www.renewanation.org/newsletters/who-is-evangelizing-your-child). However, most Christian families send their children to public schools that also teach doctrines in conflict with the Christian faith. In fact, fewer than 5% of children in Charlottesville and Albemarle attend Christian schools.

There are roughly 20,000 children ages 5-18 in Charlottesville and Albemarle alone, and 90% attend our local public schools. For decades, there has been a push to keep God out of public schools in an attempt to "separate church and state." However, the underlying flaw with this attempt is the idea that there is such a thing as

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Kimberly Moore, Executive Director, enjoys holding the book while a child reads.

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

- Proverbs 22:6

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One way to keep up-to-date with the happenings at Community Christian Academy is to follow us on Facebook. You can connect to our Facebook page directly from our website (www.cca-va.org), or

Find Us on Facebook

you can find us at www.facebook.com/CommunityChristianAcademy. On our Facebook page, you will find recent pictures of the school and of our activities. Just recently added were pictures of our

fully furnished classrooms and spacious playground as well as some fun pictures of the Executive Director reading stories to some elementary-aged children.

Is Christian Education Important? –cont.

“Education is useless without the Bible.”

- Noah Webster

neutrality. When God is removed, something false invariably takes His place. In school, children will discuss important theological questions—“What is the nature of man? Where did we come from? What is right and wrong?” - and these children will be given answers. If children cannot be given biblically-based answers, they will get false ones.

It is easy to see the potential dangers of having our children accepting contrary views of truth when we think about sending

them to other types of religious schools. However, it is easy to feel at ease with our local schools because they are familiar even though there is just as much likelihood that they will adversely impact our children’s belief system. Some studies suggest that as many as 85% of children



from Christian homes who attend public schools will renounce their faith by the time they graduate. Additionally, studies show that there is no statistical difference between self-proclaimed “Born-again Christians” and Non-Christians in the areas of gambling, pornography, theft, consulting a psychic, physical abuse, drunkenness, illegal drug use, lying, getting revenge, gossiping, and having sex outside of marriage. And sadly, only 91% of evangelical Christians believe that there is absolute truth

Is Christian Education Important?—cont.

apart from themselves.

In no way am I suggesting that the public schools are solely at fault for such disheartening statistics, nor am I suggesting that Christian schools will fully provide a solution. However, it is important to understand that if children are hearing messages that are

contrary to their faith for 35 hours per week for thirteen years, they will be impacted. “Truth” apart from God is not Truth, and the Christian school has the potential to partner with families and the church to teach Truth—academic and spiritual. Providing a consistent message between

the home, the church, and the school will help children to stay on track.

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding”
Proverbs 9:10.

A Message from Our Board President—Butch Wells

I joined the board of Community Christian Academy because I saw the value that this school could offer that popular education today is failing to give. The Christian community needs each other to instill Christian values into our children. Without a cooperative effort in the Christian community, we neglect our most important assets (our

children), thereby diminishing today and annihilating tomorrow. One of the reasons I am most excited about Community Christian Academy is that it focuses on representing the diversity of the Body of Christ by having students from vari-

ous socio-economic, racial, and denominational backgrounds.



Butch Wells is the Founder and CEO of TASSCOII Home Health Care, Tempco Management, and Maid 2 Order, as well as Pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church in Charlottesville.

Our Newest Board Member—Jeff Villio

I believe that being a part of the board at Community Christian Academy is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity in Charlottesville to make a difference in young people's lives within a school setting. Christian education is important to me for two reasons. First, Jesus' first command to Peter in John 21:15 after His resurrection is to feed His lambs. The calling to share Jesus is one of the key foundational pieces in our walk with Christ. Second, Christian education is one of the few places where Christians are gaining ground

and where God is opening the door for His people to make a difference in a fallen world.. Community



Christian Academy is special because of its focus on diversity. It strives to break down the social bar-

riers with which so many institutions struggle. It is a privilege to work with board members who have a great mix of talents and gifts and to see how God operates through each one of them.

Jeff is the Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church in Keswick. He was called into ministry in 2001 after a career in the corporate world at Wal-Mart. He lives in Charlottesville with his wife, Kim, and they have three grown children.

Meet Our Teachers—Christina Adams



Christina comes to CCA as our kindergarten and 1st

grade teacher after spending three successful years teaching kindergarten in Orange County Public Schools. A certified teacher, Christina is particularly excited about having the opportunity to work in an environment where she is allowed to share about God's love with her

students. Christina thoroughly enjoys music and incorporates it into many of her learning activities. At church, you can frequently find her helping in the nursery or with the drama team. She and her husband, Kyle, have an adorable toddler named Christian.

Meet Our Teachers—Ellen Berman

Ellen comes to CCA as our 2nd and 3rd grade teacher with over 18 years experience in education, including five years teaching 3rd grade at The Covenant School. Earlier in her career, she also worked with mentally disabled and autistic children and adults and developed a love for sign language. Other interests include drama, clown-

ing, and mentoring new Christians in her church. Ellen loves including interactive and hands-on activities in her classroom, and she is excited that God has called her to teach in a Christian school committed to affordability, a passion dear to her heart as a parent who struggled to find affordable Christian schools for her children.

She has enjoyed 28 years of marriage to her husband, Jerry, and has two grown sons



“Belief in, and dependence on God, is absolutely essential.”

- Ronald Reagan



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Community Christian Academy exists to glorify God by preparing students, well-grounded in knowledge and faith, for successful lives. Seeking to reflect the diversity of the body of Christ, Community Christian Academy partners with families and other Christian organizations to promote transformation within our community. The school's goal is to develop critically-thinking students who will engage the culture by living lives that demonstrate scholarship, servant-leadership, and devotion to Christ and to mankind.

A number of people have expressed excitement about our mission to provide affordable Christian education to all interested families in our community. Often, we are asked by people throughout our area about what they can do to help. To provide a sliding scale with significant scholarships to the majority of our families, we need to keep operational costs low. To answer the question, "What can I do to help?" Community Christian Academy has added a "Current Needs" page to our website (www.cca-va.org) where you can see what items we currently could use to cut costs. If you feel led to help provide a Christian education to our community's children and future leaders, please check out our needs listed under our Partnership Page on our website. Using PayPal, donors can easily support our efforts to raise a generation that will "Honor God through Academic Excellence."

*"And my God will supply all
your needs according to His
riches in glory in Christ Jesus"*

Philippians 4:19.

God Continues to Provide Every Need

Six months ago, we could not have fathomed God's intention and provision for Community Christian Academy. When God convinced the leadership of CCA that He wanted a school focused on providing Christian education to all families who wanted it regardless of family income, we couldn't see how God would bring the necessary building, furniture, supplies, and equipment since no one on the board had the financial means to fund such an undertaking. However, we did not waiver on our belief that God was able to supply everything He wanted to fulfill His vision.

We were amazed last Feb-

ruary when God provided a partnership with Alliance Bible Church to supply the building and some of the furniture and supplies. Then, God provided all the teachers' desks, bookcases, file cabinets, and office furniture through National College. Last week, Equipping the Saints brought us 40 desks for 2nd and 3rd grades and a needed white board. Along with a number of

donations from individuals, we now have a furnished facility that God has provided through His people to support this school.

As we end this edition of our monthly newsletter, we want to thank our Lord, Jesus Christ, for His faithfulness to us and for calling us to join Him in His work in our community.

