

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Honoring God through Academic Excellence

November 1, 2012

Upcoming Dates

- Friday, November 2—Picture Day
- Saturday, November 3—Time change. Set your clocks back one hour.
- Wednesday, November 21—Friday, November 23—Thanksgiving Break
- Tuesday, December 18, 6:30 p.m.—Christmas program.
- Thursday, December 20—Wednesday, January 2—Christmas Break.

"... [W]hen the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?"

- Luke 18:8

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Faith is a Rough Road—Written by Kimberly Moore

Can I be real with you? It was scary when I decided to leave my position as Campus Director at National College in December 2011 to start Community Christian Academy. I had talked to a variety of people over several months and gotten comments such as, "You can't run a Christian school where tuition pays only 30% of your budget." "The economy is bad; people don't have the funds to support another ministry." "There's not enough money in Charlottesville to pay for another school." And the one that struck most deeply, "I don't want to see you hurt and embarrassed if it fails."

I did get some, "That's nice; I hope it works out for you." That's the polite way of saying, "I think you're crazy, but I'm too polite to say so to your face." And a handful reminded me, "God can do anything; if He says do it, then go for it!" Some of those few be-

came my board members, financial supporters, and prayer partners.

Community Christian Academy is a faith ministry. God called a director with few financial resources to partner with some



people with few resources to serve children where many of their families have few financial resources. While you are probably thinking that I'm getting ready to ask for donations, I'm not (because I am a terrible fundraiser). Instead, can I take a minute to brag on my God?

When we had nothing to give to secure a facility for the school and only three days left to submit an application to Albemarle

County for a special use permit, God gave us a home at Alliance Bible Church (now called Cross-Life Community Church) on Rio Road. This place was perfect for a school and already came filled with books, furniture, art supplies, and more. We thought that since we were offering affordable tuition rates with a sliding scale tuition model that we would have people clamoring to get in and would be full with 60 kids. However, by June, we had only 7 students and no funds to hire any teachers. It's hard to believe now, but we considered waiting a year to open in hopes of raising the needed funds to operate.

The Board and I spent a few weeks seeking God's will, and I felt that the Lord was challenging us to see a difference between a rough road and an impasse. Since we didn't have the funds or

Continued—Page 2

We Are So Proud of What Our Students Have Learned And It Has Been Only Eight Weeks!

"I can't believe how much they have learned already!" That was the chorus among the Board of Directors after the students did a somewhat impromptu demonstration of what they have been learning this year. The students introduced themselves and an-

swered questions in Spanish and demonstrated their knowledge of the books of



the Bible and led the Board in their pledges. "I was so impressed with the diversity of the students," noted one of our visitors—Randy Corbin, District Superintendent for the Mid-Atlantic District of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. We were so pleased!

Faith is a Rough Road - Continued

*“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us.”
- Ephesians 3:20*

enough students to bring in enough tuition dollars to pay for classroom teachers, we asked our top two candidates if they would walk in faith with us and agree to serve even if funds did not come in to pay them. After discussing the situation with their spouses, both teachers came back with the same responses. “I am called by God to be here. Even though I can’t afford not to be paid, God will take care of my needs.” Wow, what faith! In addition to our two classroom teachers, the Lord brought ten volunteers (some of whom we highlighted in last month’s newsletter) to provide extra-curricular activities (such as Spanish and music), office support, after-care supervision, classroom help, and janitorial services. With teachers, helpers, a facility, supplies, and eleven students, we were ready to start.

Living by faith is exciting, but it is also really hard. As expected, we did not have the funds from tuition to pay our teachers in September. Our school’s prayer team was in operation, and for a week, we prayed that God would bring in the funds to make payroll. Checks had to be written on a Friday, and the Monday before, we were \$2,500 short—the amount we had anticipated. It was exciting to watch as for four straight days, God brought in donations that ended up being enough to make payroll! Then, we prayed for rent, which was an additional \$1,000 needed in two weeks. Again, God provided just in time. When we

closed the books at the end of September, every bill had been paid in full without my asking any specific person for a donation.

October started out just



like September with a \$2,500 need for payroll. As I prayed about it, I didn’t feel concerned like I did last month because I had seen God’s faithful provision in September. However, this month, God didn’t bring the funds needed for payroll. After payday on the 15th, God did bring the exact amounts needed for our remaining monthly bills, so exact, in fact, that the difference between our bills and income was only \$6! However, I didn’t know what to think about having only half the funds needed to pay the teachers.

The week after payday, I was somewhat quiet during my daily prayer time in the sanctuary at school. (I get alone with God in the sanctuary every school day for a 30-minute time of intercession for our ministry.) Normally, I pace before the altar, praying out loud, but that week I sat in the pew with a huge “question mark” in my spirit. Had God failed to show up? Did I not have enough faith this month? What would I say to all those people who

said that we couldn’t possibly run a school that relied on 70% of income from donations? To make matters worse, I had to figure out how our circumstances made sense in light of Ephesians 3:20 (see quote to the left). That verse had chased me the whole week before payroll—on the radio, in my pastor’s Sunday sermon—I just couldn’t get away from it.

I can’t say that God in a booming voice came to me in my quiet time and cleared everything up, but some thoughts did come to mind over the next few days that may be part of the answer.

1. The cross appeared to be the greatest defeat of all history until the resurrection proved otherwise. (Perhaps failing to make payroll is part of God’s bigger plan.)
2. A community school that serves all people regardless of ability to pay needs support throughout the community. (If people see that God fully provides through a few people, they will assume that someone else will help and will not participate.)
3. Faith untested isn’t faith. Like Job, our resolve must be tested.

I can’t guarantee that these ideas are from God, but I do know that our teachers came to work after being paid half their salary with the same commitment and joy as they did the day before. The road of faith is rough, but we continue to move forward because we are not at an impasse .

I Have the Best Job Ever— And You Can't Change My Mind

I love my job. I get to work with light, tan, and dark-skinned children from poor, middle-income, and upper-income families who worship Jesus in Presbyterian, Baptist, Pentecostal, non-denominational churches—or maybe only at school. We read, add, speak Spanish, sing, spell, experiment, play, pray, and occasionally cry together. We invade each other's spaces (see the pictures on the previous pages where we are cramped in my office celebrating my birthday with child-made birthday

cards.) We are a community, and we are making a difference.

The birthday card below was made for me by one of



our students who has had a "talk" with me before—nothing serious. He has a quality character, and I'm glad I'm one of many who

get to help guide his way. His birthday card was extra special to me because it touched a topic I'm so passionate about—faith, and he noted that faith was in our school.

I once heard a Christian singer be introduced as someone who had given up her singing career to sing for Jesus—that's ridiculous. I don't think you give up anything to serve Jesus. I left rat race to help raise children who will be strong academically and who will love Jesus. It just doesn't get any better than this!

Board Retreat—November 19 Will You Join Us in Prayer?



On Monday, November 19, the Board of Directors and Executive Director will spend time seeking God's will as we plan for the summer and next school year. Committed to the mission God has placed on our hearts, we want to walk in line with God's leading to continue the important

work of providing excellent and affordable Christian education to every family who wants it.

We are asking the Christian community to join us in prayer that day as we prepare to take the next steps in the development of Community Christian Academy.

It's Time for Community Christian Academy to Give

Three times last week I was faced with the concept of giving even when you don't think you have anything to give. A local pastor told me that he felt that God called his church to give when they had only \$3 in their checkbook. I also had a YouTube video shared on my Facebook page where pastor Francis Chan felt called by God to give away

more than his entire year's salary (Francis Chan Fearless on YouTube). Then, I read a daily devotional that just happened to be on giving from the book of Malachi. I think God is challenging CCA to give.

As I prayed, I didn't know how we could give. After all, we didn't even have payroll in October, and we

already rely so heavily on donations. After a discussion with our staff, we decided as a start to begin giving some time each month for community service. We want our students to understand the importance of giving and are seeking ideas on how we can serve as a school. Please email suggestions to kmoore@cca-va.org.

"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

- James 1:5

Mission Statement:

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.



Introducing CrossLife Community Church - Location of Community Christian Academy *Written by Todd Cothran, Pastor*

I appreciate Kimberly asking me to write something for this month's newsletter. It gives me an opportunity to praise what I see happening at CCA as well as an opportunity to tell you a little bit about what is happening at CrossLife Community Church (formerly Alliance Bible Church).

Let me start off by saying I believe Community Christian Academy is an excellent choice for children's education. It was not yet determined that I would be coming to Alliance Bible Church when I found out a Christian school would be using the facilities. I spent many years in Christian education, so I was excited to hear a school was going to be utilizing our space. We have been here for three months now, and after getting to know Kimberly and the teachers as well as their philosophy of Christian education better, I can say without any doubt or hesitation that the children are in good hands. Not only will they receive strong academic instruction, but they are surrounded by people who want to love, nurture and train them to become mighty ambassadors for our King. Many of you may already

know that Alliance Bible Church has been in decline for many years. In fact, the church was close to having to lock the doors and sell the property. It was at the lowest point it had ever been in its 78 year history. While it looked like ABC was going to be like so many other churches with a long history that ultimately died - God had other plans. God is calling Alliance Bible Church to die to self so that she can be reborn for His purposes. This death means a new beginning.

What does this death look like? It means we will honor the past but look to the future. We will use the resources God has given for the glory and honor of Jesus Christ and the growth of His life-changing gospel. By God's grace, the result will be a robust church with a God-renewed mission to proclaim the good news and make disciples in the community in which He has sovereignly placed us.

Another difference will be our name. We are now CrossLife Community Church. When we decided it was time to change the name of Alliance Bible Church, we wanted a name that reflected what, by

God's grace, this local body of believers will become. CrossLife Community Church encompasses what we believe God is calling us to as we strive to minister here in Charlottesville and beyond. There is a more full explanation of our name on our website at crosslifecommunity.org. We desire to exalt the name of Jesus by helping people know Him and follow Him with all their being. In short, we want to make disciples. A disciple is one who follows Jesus, is being changed by Jesus, and is committed to the mission of Jesus.

You are part of watching two new births. One is the birth of a new Christian school that I believe God will use for the training and nurturing of our children for years to come. Two, is a rebirth of a church that I believe God wants to use mightily for gospel growth here in Charlottesville and beyond. Please be in prayer for these two new "infants." It is only by God's grace and the working of His Holy Spirit that they will grow and mature to be used mightily by our God for His glory and honor. If you are looking for a church to visit, please join us on any Sunday morning.

"...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.."

- James 5:16

**Excellent, Affordable
Christian Education**

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