

THE Communicator

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Am I Allowing Christ to be Formed in Me?

A Note from Lead Administrator, Mrs. Jackie Mathews

labor pains for you until Christ is formed in you. Galatians 4:19

In the latter part of the school year, I began writing weekly reflections to encourage faculty and staff as they seek to train up and encourage our students. This particular reflection focuses on the “opportunities” we encounter in life, which could be character building and life altering. God has a plan for each of us, and with the help of His Holy Spirit and our obedience we can become who He has created us to be — more like Christ.

I recently heard a guest speaker at my church say, “God is more concerned with who I am becoming than where I am arriving.” I had to pause and think about that. The indication is, as I am on this journey as a Christ follower, whether I’m on a primrose path or a path filled with thorns and thistles, God is using the opportunity to perfect character in me.

When I look back on all of the difficult seasons in my life, at the moment, I couldn’t understand why it was taking God so long to deliver me. I was trusting and believing. Why wasn’t He moving those obstacles out of my way? I believe He takes every opportunity to produce in us patience, faith, strength of character, and peace. I personally do not believe God caused the circumstances. Some of them were clearly of my own doing. But we live in a broken world that provides a plethora of opportunities for us to be challenged.

So where we are headed, and how soon we get there are not the issues. I am sure the three Hebrew boys were thinking, “God, this is not just a little fireplace fire. We are in a furnace. It’s getting quite warm in here. You didn’t forget about us, did you? God, how long?” But the point of their story is, they came out “without even the smell of smoke!” I hope you don’t read this as just another fictional fairytale. Only with God can a fire that was meant to punish actually purify.

At this moment in time, while you are walking through your journey, look for those God “opportunities.” Allow Him to develop character in you. Let the trying of our faith develop patience, and patience character, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing (James 1:4).

As we reflect on our own journey, it’s sometimes good to imagine what the big picture might be from God’s point of view. He sees our end from the beginning, and knows exactly where we are, and who He has called us to be. He also knows how to build

“As we reflect on our own journey, it’s sometimes good to imagine what the big picture might be from God’s point of view.”

strength of character in us, as we seek Him in the midst of our challenges.

As we train and cultivate the hearts of our students, let us be mindful of the big picture. Ask God what He sees in them that He wants us to call out. You might be amazed at what you see when you take time and pray to see others through God’s eyes. I am sure while Gideon was hiding out threshing wheat, no one saw him as a mighty man of valor (Judges 6). But God did! I wonder who you have in your midst? Talk to God about it and be encouraged. His plans are always good (Jeremiah 29:11). You might very well be the catalyst God uses to help that student find the path He has planned for them from the beginning.



Best Wishes Cathy Shafer!

Thank you, Cathy Shafer, for 47 years of unwavering commitment and dedicated service to Chapel Hill Christian School. As you enter retirement, may the next chapter bring you the well-deserved rewards of a job well done. Congratulations!



Developing a Strong Partnership

North Campus Notes from Mrs. Lisa Stewart, Principal

It is an honor to introduce myself as the new principal of Chapel Hill Christian School's North Campus, and to join this extraordinary school community. I pray this message finds you enjoying the rejuvenating days of summer break. I can assure you that I share in this school's commitment to caring for your children, and modeling the love of Christ in my words and actions.

I come to Chapel Hill Christian School with a vast array of experiences, which include being an elementary teacher for over 12 years, leading the children's church ministry at my church for children ranging in age from 4 to 12, and being very active in starting several youth ministries.

In addition to my role as an educator, I am blessed to be a mother of two adult

daughters attending college, and married to my husband for 25 years.

I am thrilled to be living out my favorite life verse, which is: *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge HIM, and HE shall direct your paths"* Proverbs 3:5-6. At a young age, I came to accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior while attending Sunday School.

What a privilege it is to be a part of encouraging over 200 young people to build a love for Christ, and learn more about having their own personal relationship with Him, and then launching them out to be a light for the Lord in and outside of Chapel Hill. I look forward to working alongside you as we develop a strong partnership between

our school, your family, and your church. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of assistance to you, and I will do the same when I need your assistance and support. Working together and being led by the Holy Spirit will allow us to nurture each student on their own path to success. Our words have power, so it's critical that we are mindful to honor what the Lord has entrusted us with, which is your children. I believe children live up or down to our expectations, so join me in praying with your child and speaking life into them. The Word of God says in Psalms 139:14, *"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."*

Thank you to everyone who has already welcomed me and helped make me feel at home. I look forward to celebrating our collective successes during the 2024-2025 school year!



Passing the Baton

South Campus Greetings from Mrs. Vicki Keys, Principal

Are you interested, like I am, in watching the Olympic Trials as athletes strive to get a

spot on Team USA for the Summer Olympics in Paris, France, this summer? The 4 x 100 relay is an exciting event where not only do the runners need to run fast, they need to pass a baton successfully three different times. Medals have been won or lost on the passing of the baton.

Two runners moving forward, and with precision, need to exchange the baton

successfully. It cannot be too early, and it cannot take too long. It is not about the individual runner, but about the team.

We are in a season at CHCS of "passing the baton." Cathy Shafer has run the race very well as principal of our North campus and now it is time for her to pass the baton. For me personally, as a new principal coming in three years ago, Cathy took me by the hand and literally walked through each day with me. When she would do a task, she would tell me so that I would know to do it. When I had questions or concerns, she was always there to answer or to be a sounding board. I have appreciated Cathy's willingness to share her wisdom, perspective, and her heart with me.

As Cathy retires, she is passing the baton with care and intentionality, to me, to now run beside Lisa Stewart, our new North Campus Principal. My desire is to

walk alongside Lisa as a support and help to her as Cathy has been for me. We are now running a new leg in the relay race. It is both daunting and exciting as we continue to move forward as a team.

I am very aware that Cathy, Lisa, and I are just a small part of a long line of those principals who have faithfully come before us, successfully passing their batons. God's Word so clearly speaks to this race that we are all running:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses . . . let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith!" Hebrews 12:1, 2

Please pray for Cathy as she enters a new season of her life, and for Lisa and I as we continue to move forward together, that we would persevere and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus as we run the race that He has marked out for us!





Congratulations to our 2023 Graduates!



North Campus Graduates

Timeia Addie	Victoria Htoo	Simon Rai
Connor Allen	Avery John	Milania Reynolds
King Antoine	Andrew Kleckner	Savanah Richards
Simon Banwart	Aubriana Lane	Miles Rodgers
Ella-Grace Blair	Fae Linder	Samari Sharpe
Duke Boone	Brianna Lindsey	Abram Shiposh
Teagan Cheek	Adrian Mitchell	Kamille Smith
Sawyer Deetscreek	Lucy Moyer	Thakomin Thaw
Zach Dietz	Harrison Music	Hayden Till
Isabella Galeano	Jose Penn	Syi'ah Vaene
Juelz Gulley	Hapsay Ponnisay	



South Campus Graduates

Asher Arnold	Elise Johnson	Chayse Spiegle
Elizabeth Byars	Madilyn Kelly	Payton Steele
Asher Gogel	Teagan Little	Ella Tyrrell
Matthew Halman Jr.	Mya Saulsberry	Myla Walberg
Cali Harris	Elijah Simon	
Elianna Jefferson	David Soto	



Great job, students. We're proud of you!



MATH OLYMPICS

NORTH CAMPUS MATH OLYMPICS PARTICIPANTS

Third Grade Computation:

Nicholas Davis – 5th Place
Austin Kleckner
Isabel Stewart

Third Grade Reasoning:

Layla Boone
Paul Htoo
Sidney Richards

Fourth Grade Computation:

Andrew Jones
Britton Lombardi
Kylie Say

Fourth Grade Reasoning:

Cayden Cheek
Teresa Htoo
James Moyer

Fifth Grade Computation:

Avery Davis
Dorothy Htoo
Olivia Plazak

Fifth Grade Reasoning:

Victoria Duong
Cadence Gambrell

Sixth Grade Computation:

Connor Allen – 3rd Place
Simon Banwart
Victoria Htoo – 2nd Place

Sixth Grade Reasoning:

Lucy Moyer
Kamille Smith – 3rd Place
Thakomin Thaw – 4th Place



ACSI SPEECH MEET

This year's ACSI Speech Meet included 148 total participants from local five campuses. CHCS sent 62 students and brought home 46 Blue Ribbons, 16 Red Ribbons, and 4 Best in Room.

NORTH CAMPUS SPEECH MEET PARTICIPANTS

First Grade:

Ezra Htoo
Mila Terzich
Valentino Rubino
Braylen Strickland
Evelyn French
Teri Denmark

Second Grade:

Gideon Horton
Sofia Hser
Meredith Moyer

Third Grade:

Paul Htoo
Kamryn Smith
Milan Hilton

Fourth Grade:

Teresa Htoo
Brayden Roper
Barack Hashim
Andrew Jones
Kylie Say

Fifth Grade:

Cade Bittcuffer
Cadence Gambrell
Anna Speas
Victoria Duong

Sixth Grade:

Teagan Cheek
Victoria Htoo
Timeia Addie
Kamille Smith
Brianna Lindsey
Andrew Kleckner

SOUTH CAMPUS MATH OLYMPICS PARTICIPANTS

Third Grade Computation:

Magdalene Htoo – 2nd Place
Titus Robertson – 3rd Place
JJ Vance – 2nd Place

Third Grade Reasoning:

Porter Clark
Colin Nester – 3rd Place
MacKenzie Rayl

Fourth Grade Computation:

Thomas Herwick
Vesper McCormick – 2nd Place
Amanda Sebestyen

Fourth Grade Reasoning:

Micah Gogel – 3rd Place

Charlie Valentine

Ryan Uribarri – 5th Place

Fifth Grade Computation:

Savanah Davis
Liam Rayl – 2nd Place
Sam Witchev – 3rd Place

Fifth Grade Reasoning:

Madailein Francis – 3rd Place
Cole Jacquet – 4th Place
Victoria Woods

Sixth Grade Computation:

Elianna Jefferson
Elise Johnson
Elijah Simon – 5th Place

SOUTH CAMPUS SPEECH MEET PARTICIPANTS

First Grade:

Tate Elkins
Ian Nguyen
Emma Soto
Titus Winkelman
Mira Cole
Jett Henry
Finley Robertson
Natalie Rogouski

Second Grade:

Jayden Johns
Everett Johnson
Alfredo Sanabria
Makayla Strunk

Hudson Blake

Noah Montgomery

Third Grade:

Kennedy Risby
Titus Robertson
Naomi Jefferson
Adyson Slabaugh
Magdalene Htoo
Hunter Hudak

Fourth Grade:

Amanda Sebestyen
Vesper McCormick
Lane Walton

Ruan Uribarri

Charlie Valentine

Fifth Grade:

Savanah Davis
Madailein Francis
Michael Hudak
Blake Minnich
Helen Munoz
Jayden Wilder

Sixth Grade:

Elizabeth Byars
Ashes Gogel
Ellie Jefferson
Mya Saulsberry

NORTH CAMPUS SPELLING BEE WINNERS

First Grade:

Patrick Davis – 1st Place
Andrew Miner – 2nd Place
David Van Voorhis – 3rd Place

Second Grade:

Norah Rodgers – 1st Place

Moses Duong – 2nd Place

Meredith Moyer – 3rd Place

Third Grade:

Sophia Murphy – 1st Place
Graham Edwards – 2nd Place
Sidney Richards – 3rd Place

SIXTH GRADE CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

The South Campus sixth grade participated in the ACSI Writing Festival. Their narratives or essays were written in class, uploaded to the event site, and scored by judges from other schools. Ribbons were given for superior, excellent, and good scores.

Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding work:

- **Superior Score** – Mya Saulsberry
- **Excellent Score** – Elianna Jefferson, Elijah Simon, and Myla Walberg

Words Matter: Curriculum Update – Linda Wise

In today's culture, words have become a powerful tool for good and evil. Unfortunately, we do not have to look too far to find examples of either. Ephesians 4:29 states, *"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."* As we strive to help CHCS students develop the foundation for achieving academic excellence, it is critical that they learn to use their words to have a positive impact on the world for Christ, as they communicate with others. It is important that they learn how to effectively communicate in speaking, writing and listening. At an elementary level, that will translate into direct instruction and practice in order to develop the writing process skills, while using proper grammar, mechanics, and spelling.

One of the Accreditation Standards for ACSI (Association of Christian Schools, International), is to complete a cyclic review of all curriculum that is used for instruction. As part of that process of review, a committee is formed to evaluate teacher input, current curriculum, assessment data, Ohio Learning Standards, National Standards, and the CHCS Mission, Vision and Expected Student Outcomes (ESO). The Administrative Team also continuously reviews the implementation of the curriculum in the classrooms and across grade-levels and campuses.

During our previous English Language Arts review, the Superkids program was adopted for K-2nd grade, and Read Side by Side (C.I.A.) for grades 3-6. This past year, as part of a curriculum review, it was determined that there was a need to evaluate the supporting components used for the spelling, writing and grammar portions that supplement the Reading curriculum in grades 3-6. This was to ensure that there would be a smooth transition from grade to grade and continuity across campuses.

What did the committee choose and why?

After reviewing several different textbook series from both secular and Christian publishers, the committee recommended the adoption of BJU Press for both Spelling and English (Writing and Grammar). A summary from the narratives received from the evaluation committee stressed that the BJU Press curriculum was well organized, covered

all the standards, provided academic rigor, and the writings were examples of real-world teachings, while integrating biblical principles and concepts. It was also mentioned that the teacher and technology resources were well developed and would be an asset in instruction.

As a preview of the new textbooks that you may be seeing in your home, the following descriptions are provided:

English: Writing & Grammar (Grades 3-6)

The vision of the BJU Press English curriculum is to equip students to master foundational grammar and writing skills, enabling them to craft effective written and oral communication that honors God and serves others.

This vision will be implemented developmentally as they students advance through the grades. The key goals for each school year will be for students to continue to learn and develop in each of these areas:

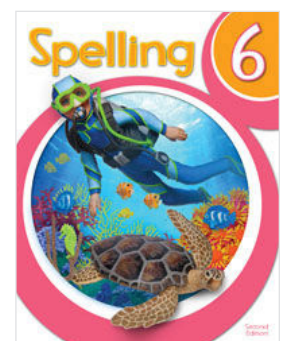
- Language is God's Gift
- Foundations of Grammar and Mechanics
- Study and Reference Skills
- The Writing Process
- Clear and Effective Writing
- Developing Digital Literacy
- Skill Development
- Communicating to Serve Others

Spelling (Grades 3-6)

Learning to spell is an essential part of learning to communicate accurately in writing. Students will learn through carefully crafted weekly word lists that teach word patterns, generalizations meanings of words, and will progress through the grades to include various syllable patterns, derivation formed by adding suffixes, and words with Greek or Latin word parts.

What is next?

During the 2024-2025 school year a committee will be formed to review the math curriculum as we strive to help students achieve academic excellence and find a lifelong passion for learning, as they discover God's path for their future.



"As we strive to help CHCS students develop the foundation for achieving academic excellence, it is critical that they learn to use their words to have a positive impact on the world for Christ..."



2024 Charity Golf Outing

Thanks to all who came out to support this year's 2024 Charity Golf Outing. While many wonderful memories were made, the true blessing is in the support that our golfers and sponsors provided to help further Christian education at CHCS. This year we had over 80 golfers on the green!

Congratulations to this year's 1st Place Foursome, Team Massa: Lou, TJ, Jim and Doug who finished at -18 under par.



2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST

Staggered Start of School:

- 21 Grades 4-6
- 22 Grades 1-3 and 1/2 PS, PK, K
- 23 Grades 1-6 and 1/2 PS, PK, K
- 26 All Grades

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Labor Day - No School

OCTOBER

- 11 Vision Casting Dinner

NOVEMBER

- 27-29 Thanksgiving - No School

DECEMBER

- 19 Christmas Break Begins

JANUARY

- 6 Classes Resume
- 20 MLK Day - No School

FEBRUARY

- 17 President's Day - No School
- 18 No School

MARCH

- 24-28 Spring Break

APRIL

- 18-21 Easter Break

MAY

- 22 Last Day of School

Thank You for Your Generous Gifts!

Donations to CHCS may be made in memory or in honor of someone at chapelhillchristianschool.org or call the school office at 330-896-0852.

DONOR	NOTE
Judith O'Hare	In Honor of Graham Walton's BD, Son of Dr. & Mrs. Ryan Walton
AUI	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
330 Dental	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
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Adkins Building	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Anything Electric	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
AUI	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Carter & Miriam Ray	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
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J Rayl Trucking	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Jennings H&C	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Jimmie's BarBQue (Brian & Judy Blair)	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
K Company	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Keith and Anna Lepage	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Ken & Beth Rusinoff	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Kids Closet	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
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Miller's Refrigeration	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
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Summit Racing	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Unity Health Network	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
W3 Wealth Management	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Western Reserve Hospital	CHCS Charity Golf Outing
Western Reserve Resources Corp.	CHCS Charity Golf Outing

Let's be the One: Missions Update

– Dana Hall

On the way to Jerusalem He (Jesus) was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as He entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

This story from Luke 17:11-19 is a powerful reminder to us that God values our gratefulness. He has bestowed countless blessings on our lives, but how many have we taken for granted or even felt entitled to?

There are infinite ways to show gratitude. Many of our friends in Guatemala love to give back to **Connecting Hearts Ministry** as a way of showing their gratitude for the Christian education they have received from their sponsors.

Kenia and Astrid were recently great helpers for the middle school girls' overnighter. Evelin and Alejandra have worked hard to learn English and are very willing translators whenever needed.

Álvaro just received a degree in civil engineering and was the project manager for two beautiful new classrooms added on to the second level of the Amigos School.

Brenda creates adorable bulletin boards for CHCS missions offerings each September.

Fredy and Oswaldo volunteer their time on the board of Conectando Corazones, the CHM legal organization in Guatemala.

Nataly gives back to the ministry in numerous ways in her role as Administrative Assistant – translating letters to and from sponsors, preparing for groups who visit, overseeing payments for sponsored students, and ensuring CHM is maintaining legal guidelines in Guatemala. In addition,

she and her husband sponsor a teenage boy, and she and her brother Carlos David sponsor a little boy. Cristian also sponsors a girl who is the same age as his daughter.

Other sponsored students are now employed at the Amigos School and are using the education they received to minister in the school they attended. César is an outstanding principal, Dany a trustworthy accountant, and Astrid a very creative Kindergarten teacher.

Luis is a huge blessing at the Amigos Church, serving on the church board, leading the youth group, and overseeing many outreach ministries with both teens and adults.

What a joy it is to see these, and many other formerly sponsored students, showing their gratitude by using their talents to impact the lives of others. May we also be like the one leper who returned to Jesus to say "Thank You!" May we be the one!!



Kenia and her sister joyfully serve at the craft table for the overnighter.



What a special day as Nataly's sponsored boy and his little brother were ring bearers in her wedding!



Cristian's daughter spends the day with their sponsored girl.



Evelin translates for Emmanuel as he FaceTimes his sponsor in Arizona.



Luis and César lead morning worship and prayer at the Amigos Church.

Many of our friends in Guatemala love to give back to the Connecting Hearts Ministry as a way of showing their gratitude for the Christian education they have received from their sponsors.



Chapel Hill Christian School

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CHCS

**His masterpiece
in Christ Jesus
to do good works,
which God prepared in
advance for them to do.**

Ephesians 2:10

chapelhillchristianschool.org

OUR MISSION:

Love... Learn... Launch... Christ's Greatest Commandment for Christ's Great Commission: Mark 12:30-31; Matthew 28:18-20

OUR VISION:

Chapel Hill Christian School, in partnership with the home and the Church, exists to inspire students to love God and love one another, to reach their highest potential academically, spiritually, socially, and physically, and to be launched into God's designed future with the skills and spiritual maturity necessary to experience success. Our vision is to create an environment where their God-given uniqueness is celebrated, and they are taught to value a passionate commitment to academic excellence, Biblical worldview, and service for Christ.

CHCS BOARD:

Dan Petschke, Chairman	Shay Music, Treasurer	Jill Hiner Robb Martin
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Chapel Hill Christian School admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.