

CYPRESS CHRISTIAN

ISSUE 19 / 2012

CONNECTION

Academic Excellence | Biblical Values | Cultural Impact





Academic Excellence • Biblical Values • Cultural Impact
www.CypressChristian.org • 281.469.8829
K-12 Admissions • 281.469.7745
11123 Cypress N. Houston Rd. • Houston, TX 77065



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TRAINING WARRIORS THEN AND NOW

In the early 90's, Mr. Novotny was a combat arms officer with the United States Army.

He trained and led Vulcan Gun and Stinger Anti-Aircraft Missile soldiers stationed in Fort Polk, Louisiana, with the Fifth Infantry Division and the Second Armor Division.



First Lieutenant Stephen Novotny (left) sitting

on the hood of one of his platoon's Humvees. Beside him is Specialist Rick Bowen, a radioman and key member of his headquarters' squad.

First Lieutenant Novotny served as platoon leader of the 1st Platoon, 3rd Battalion of the 3rd Air Defense Regiment. Pictured is one of three of his anti-aircraft guns. The radar and rotating 20 mm cannon can be seen on the upper left.



Stephen Novotny, having just been commissioned as a U.S. Army Officer, stands for a photo with his young nephew, Timothy. The commissioning was part of the commencement ceremony for Liberty University featuring President George H.W. Bush.

**CYPRESS
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

Today, Mr. Novotny continues to train young warriors in his service as Head of School of Cypress Christian School.



Mr. Novotny utilizes a map, lantern, sword, and compass to incorporate his message to elementary students that the

Bible is the most important map we can follow! The Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.



Mr. Novotny leads prayer on the steps of the Supreme Court during the annual eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C.



During secondary chapel, Mr. Novotny reads the Bible alongside a high school student.

FROM THE

Head of School

STEPHEN NOVOTNY, J.D.

We Are Warriors

It is no accident that the Cypress Christian School emblem is that of a Warrior. It reflects one of the realities of our world for which we try to prepare our students. We are not to be lulled to sleep or be fooled into believing we are in a place of safety simply because those around us repeatedly use words such as "tolerance," "inclusiveness," and "sensitivity." Indeed, it is quite evident that there are many with belief systems that are alien to the foundational biblical values of our country who are intolerant of our national heritage and wish to erase the faith of our founding fathers from our national memory.



Stephen Novotny, Head of School

There exists an aggressive campaign for pagan religions to be acknowledged as being equally true or superior to Christianity. With a little imagination, you can almost hear Daniel and his friends being told to simply bow down and acknowledge the Babylonian gold image as deity when the music stops. At the same time, even modest assertions of the virtues of our historic Christian culture are regularly assailed as oppressive or threatening, and efforts relentlessly continue to remove any remaining copies of the Ten Commandments or other vestiges of our heritage from courthouse walls and public venues.

So, the battle lines are drawn, and the battle is very real. However, just because the battle is real does not mean it is always conventional in nature, or able to be quantified by counting physical artillery pieces or infantry regiments. This should be of no surprise. It is well known that the greater balance of meaningful action in the Cold War, one of the most dangerous conflicts of human history that lasted for decades, was in philosophical discussion on college campuses in America and in back rooms and cafés in Europe, not in missile silo drills that became routine as though totally detached from reality.

The Apostle Paul said it succinctly, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12). Truthfully, long before a physical battle occurs where bullets fly on a battlefield, smoke rises from the chimneys of a place like the Auschwitz concentration camp, or debris falls from the ruins of a structure like the World Trade Center Towers in New York, there is always a spiritual battle that is first waged in culture and in the heart of man.

God Himself is active in the conflicts we see in this fallen world. The Bible declares "The Lord is a warrior; The Lord is His name" (Exodus 15:3).

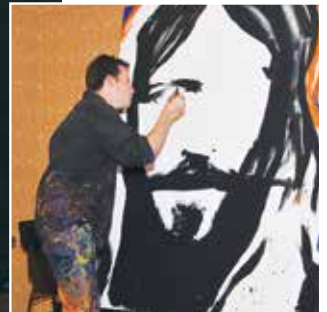
The Bible consistently admonishes us that we,

too, are to be warriors for the kingdom. As Christians, we are told to put on the whole armor of God, to be prepared to suffer hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ, and to be willing to give our all to fight the good fight. See Ephesians 6:11; II Timothy 2:3; II Timothy 4:7.

God Himself is active in the conflicts we see in this fallen world. The Bible declares "The Lord is a warrior; The Lord is His name" (Exodus 15:3). The Bible consistently admonishes us that we, too, are to be warriors for the kingdom.

At Cypress Christian School, we believe the Bible. We are committed to the battle. We are Warriors.

Banquet Raises Support for



Over 400 guests were blessed with fun entertainment from Christian comedian Bob Smiley and participation in the Heads or Tails Game as well as special performances by Kevin Gallemore of Jesus Painter Ministries and the CCS Concert Choir, a Live Auction conducted by the Lemons Sisters Auctioneers, and an inspiring message from Head of School Stephen Novotny about the future of CCS. Guests greatly enjoyed the evening saying, "We saw God glorified through music, song, art, and comedy. This is exactly what CCS is about. We are so grateful to be a part of the school. Great job. Let's do it again next year!"

Annual Fund



Please see additional pictures and read more about this year's fun event at:

www.CypressChristian.org/Support/Annual-Banquet.cfm.

Also available is a list of this year's Annual Fund projects on page 13 of this magazine.



Head of School Stephen Novotny

"I am thankful for the success of the school's fall Annual Fund and Banquet efforts, which added over \$130,000.00 to this year's Annual Fund for many needed campus and program improvements. God continues to bless our school, and we are grateful for the generosity of our families, businesses, and individuals who give of their time, talent, and resources to partner with CCS as we strive to honor the Lord Jesus Christ by providing students an education based upon academic excellence and biblical values."

Thank you to our banquet volunteers, auction donors (see list on school website) and generous sponsors:

UNDERWRITER



TABLE SPONSORS



- Corb's Auto Repair
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- Tayler Swain & B. Swain Law Firm
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- The White Family

I AM A
WARRIOR



Courage

LOVE OF LEARNING

Knowledge

Enthusiasm

Worship

Truth HUMILITY
FINISH

ADMISSIONS EVENTS

2013 - 2014

Applications for the 2013-2014 school year will be accepted beginning Thursday, November 8, 2012.

K-12 Previews

- Thursday, November 8, 2012
7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Thursday, February 7, 2013
7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Monday, April 8, 2013
7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Monday, June 17, 2013
7:00 – 8:30 pm

Kindergarten Preview

- Thursday, January 24, 2013
7:00 – 8:30 pm

Sixth Grade Preview

- Monday, January 14, 2013
7:00 – 8:30 pm

K-12 Student Visitor Days

- Tuesday, February 19, 2013
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Tuesday, April 9, 2013
9:00 am – 2:00 pm

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PARENT TESTIMONIES

My son and daughter LOVE their teachers. My middle-schooler talks about school all the time. "High five" to the sixth grade teachers! Our move to CCS has made such a tremendous difference in our home life. Thanks to the servant-minded staff/faculty for leading like Jesus. We are blessed. So much so, that I have lunch dates with two different girlfriends this week to discuss the possibility of their children coming to CCS next fall.

My son LOVES school! I love the ability to check grades and homework assignments on a daily basis. CCS has definitely exceeded my extremely high expectations!

My children love everything about the school. From faculty and staff to the students and families, we have been made to feel welcome and an immediate part of the CCS family. We are currently enjoying the middle school girls' volleyball program and the elementary boys' soccer program. Both are wonderfully orchestrated. The curriculum is challenging, yet I see the kids rising to the occasion without being overwhelmed. It is evident how much the teachers care for the children by the amount of love and enthusiasm they pour into them. My children come home with a spring in their step and a song in their heart. I frequently hear nuggets of Truth and Bible verses. We tell anyone we can about the great things the Lord is doing through CCS.

We love the warm environment - everyone is so welcoming. During carpool everyone is smiling and waving at you and it's a great way to start the morning. It is very important to me to have a Christian-based school where the teachers can talk about the Bible and Jesus.

My daughter told me about how the staff sets a truly Christian example and how she sincerely likes all her teachers. Her fellow students are friendly, helpful, and welcoming. My husband and I have also felt welcomed by the staff and parents. There is a definite Christian spirit that radiates throughout the school. We feel confident we made the right decision in trusting our daughter's education to Cypress Christian School.

We attended the parent/teacher conference day and thought we would speak to a few of the teachers. Five hours later, we had spoken to every teacher and it was wonderful.

My daughter loves school, her teachers, and everything about CCS. I love that she is memorizing Scripture!

CCS is the best decision we have ever made as parents! I thank the Lord every day for this wonderful gift!!

My child is so happy. She has regained her confidence and excitement for school. We are so blessed to have this opportunity to place our daughter in this amazing Christian school. Her love and interest for Christ has grown so much. We give all the glory and praise to Him.

My granddaughter is so happy here at CCS! What a blessing it has been for our family to have her here at CCS! She loves coming and to quote her "Wednesday is my favorite day - chapel day!" She continues to grow not only academically but also spiritually. CCS has been an answer to prayer!

My husband and I are very happy with the quality of the education, including the safe and caring classroom environment.

Mission 2012 Possible

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?' Then I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" Isaiah 6:8

Homecoming week was an exciting week filled with great costumes, lots of school spirit, alumni visits, a newly crowned king and queen, and a Warrior victory! For more photos of homecoming week festivities, see the Homecoming 2012 photo gallery on the school website.

CypressChristian.org





Annual Fund Projects Completed



As we celebrate our 35th year of service to students and families, we are thankful for the blessings of increased student enrollment; additional faculty, classrooms, offices, and AP/Honor courses; and new technology resources. Thanks to our CCS supporters who have helped us complete these important school projects without impacting tuition.

Mimio Teach Projector Systems and SmartBoards

Teachers are thankful for new technology resources in the classroom. Students are enjoying the use of these new teaching tools.

Secondary Offices and College Resource Areas

Secondary administrators and staff are enjoying new offices in the Secondary A Building to better serve secondary students.

New Modular Classroom Buildings

With an all-time high enrollment in both elementary and secondary divisions, additional classroom space is a blessing.

New Phone and Intercom System

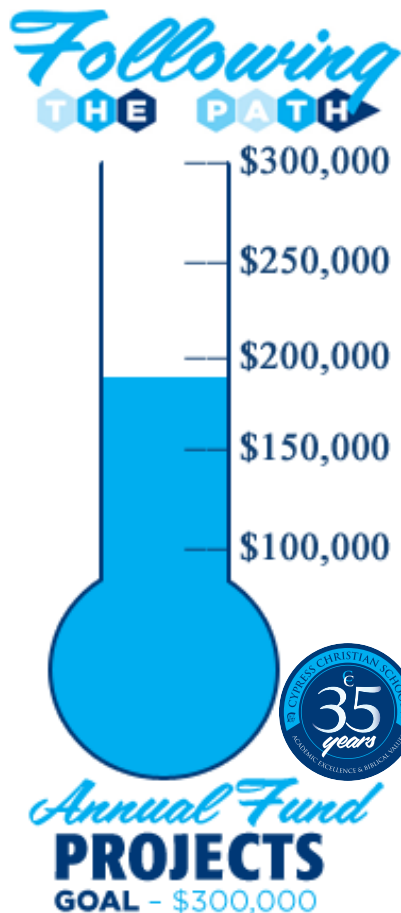
With a growing student population and expanding campus, new communication resources were needed. The new campus-wide system provides effective communication to the entire campus as well as to individual classrooms and grade levels.

2012 - 2013

Annual Fund Proposed Projects

We are over half-way to our 2012-2013 Annual Fund goal. We appreciate each donation – whether small or large – to support our mission of academic excellence and biblical values. If you would like to help fund the 2012-2013 projects, please visit www.CypressChristian.org/Support or send your gift to Cypress Christian School, 11123 Cypress N. Houston Rd., Houston, TX, 77065.

To donate to CCS now, please scan the QR code to give via mobile phone.



- Covered Walkways
- Document Readers for Elementary
- Locker/Weight Room under Grandstands
- Geotechnical, Platting, Topographical, Site and Drainage Studies for Master Planning
- Fencing Along Warrior Way Athletic Complex
- Mini-Bus for Smaller Groups
- Additional Outdoor and Hallway PA Expansion
- Remodel Administration Building
- Remodel Locker Rooms in Multi-Use Facility
- Teachers' Professional Development Funding
- Benevolence Scholarship Funding



For more information about joining our Heritage Circle, please email Lisa.Beckmeier@CypressChristian.org or David.Swan@CypressChristian.org or call 281.469.8829.

Elementary School

FROM THE Elementary School Principal

MR. ROBERT WHITE



Cypress Christian School elementary teacher Mrs. Cameron and two of her first grade students.

Equipping Young Warriors

There perhaps has never been a time in human history when the spiritual battle for young people has been more intense than in the 21st century. Today's youth are bombarded with a myriad of messages through music, Internet, movies, videos, billboards, video games, and much more. These messages are spiritual in nature, and are greatly influencing the worldview of the next generation.



In his book *Battle Cry for a Generation*, Ron Luce states, "Young people take in over eighteen thousand hours of television by the time they graduate from high school – over five thousand more hours than they spend in their 13 years of classes. In fact, American children spend more time watching television than they spend on any other activity except sleeping."ⁱ The statistics concerning other forms of media usage are equally alarming.

Why does the enemy expend so much effort targeting young people? The data clearly indicates that the biggest spiritual impact upon the life of an individual occurs during the early formative years. George Barna points this out by saying, "We discovered that the probability of someone embracing Jesus as his or her Savior was 32 percent for those between the ages of 5 and 12; 4 percent for those in the 13 to 18 range, and 6 percent for people 19 or older. In other words, if people do not embrace Jesus Christ as their Savior before they reach their teenage years, the chance of their doing so at all is slim."ⁱⁱ

As elementary principal, I do not need to read the extensive research by George Barna to be convinced of the importance of the elementary school years. I watch it daily unfolding before my eyes! When you tell a child something, he normally accepts it without question, incorporating that idea into his overall worldview.

This underscores the importance of working with elementary age children. Our teachers are Warriors equipping young Warriors for Christ. During a recent new family interview, I asked some prospective CCS parents, "Why would you wish to enroll your children into CCS?" This parent replied with passion, "I realize that you have our children eight hours a day, five days a week – more waking hours than we do. You are a major force in our child's life, and we want the message that they receive at school to reinforce the message we are giving them at home and at church."

Our teachers are Warriors equipping young Warriors for Christ.

What a rewarding ministry! By working together with us, whether it is through prayer, financial contribution, or promoting the school in our community, you are part of our Warrior family, impacting our culture for Christ! It is an exciting mission!

ⁱLuce, Ron. *Battle Cry for a Generation: The Fight to Save America's Youth*. Colorado Springs, CO: NexGen, 2005. Print.

ⁱⁱBarna, George. *Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*. Ventura: Gospel Light, 2003. Print.

Elementary School Highlights



American Festival

Fifth graders dressed in costume to portray historical characters at the annual American Festival. Students presented originally written dramatic monologues for parents and classmates as they introduced historical events that played an important part during the American Civil War.

Father/Son Volunteer Team

Fifth grader Nicolas Shassere and his dad, Michael, raise the American, Texas, and Christian flags at CCS each weekday morning. Mr. Shassere writes, "Nicolas and I enjoy focused father-son time, sharing in the fact that even such a small act is an act of selflessness, and as such, honors God, our country, our state, and all the staff at CCS. This is our time to give back to CCS, and we are honored to do this each day." Nicolas added: "I like raising the flags because it helps the school, it's good for the country, and it's respectful." CCS is thankful for these volunteers who help us to remember to honor our country, our state, and our Lord when we see our flags flying high above the CCS campus.

SAVE the DATE
Grandparents'
&
Special Friends' Day
Friday, Feb. 15, 2013



Artists at Work

Elementary art students have been busy creating!

Kindergarteners worked on a design called "Indian blanket" while first graders learned how to draw a horse. Second graders learned to draw a simple 3-D building and how to achieve depth in their art work. Third graders drew and shaded 3-D forms before constructing a robot or object from their imagination. Fourth grade students drew a realistic bird, and fifth graders drew the famous "Volkswagen Bug." Student artwork is entered into competition each year.

Reading is Fun!

From puppets to author visits to contests to book fairs, and more, students are once again finding the elementary library to be a very fun and educational place to visit.

New Technology Tool Enhances Music Lessons

New technology in the elementary music room turns the ordinary white board into a SmartBoard through the Mimio system. Music teacher Mr. Stephen Mason uses lesson plans that enable students to use the board to write music on a virtual

music staff, and also click on an orchestral instrument to hyperlink to a video in which the student can instantly see and hear a quality performance with the instrument.

Fifth Graders Visit Kindergarten

All four Kindergarten classes enjoyed their special classroom visitors – fifth graders! The kindergarten students loved having the attention and help of the "big kids." The fifth graders were mature, polite, encouraging, and sweet to the younger students and truly modeled Christ-like behavior. Kindergarteners can't wait to have them visit again soon!

Operation Christmas Child

Students in grades K-5 participated in the annual Operation Christmas Child project sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. Elementary students and their families donated new gifts such as toys and personal items to be wrapped in a box and sent to children in other countries. Students made pictures and cards and spent time praying for the children who would receive their boxes. Earlier in the year, elementary students enjoyed a special chapel service with guest speaker Luba Travis. As a young orphaned child, Miss Travis received a shoe box full of gifts from Operation Christmas Child. Through this ministry, she came to know Jesus as her Savior.



Middle School

FROM THE Middle School Principal

MRS. IVA NELL RHEA



Mrs. Ivey's Pre-AP eighth grade English class practiced revising in a real-life context. They didn't know it at the time, but Mrs. Rhea had provided a draft of her article for the CONNECTION magazine for them to edit. They used their study of effective sentence structures and word choice, made notes, and then submitted their proposed article changes. They were quick to share suggestions and surprised to meet the author.



Building Warriors

Building is difficult work. The initial stage is catching a vision of the finished product, being able to see in one's mind's eye what that addition will actually look like. Next comes the difficult task of turning the vision into reality. Maybe the job takes longer than expected, possibly it costs more than planned, conceivably the final product looks a little different than envisioned.



The task of building a warrior is not unlike building a new home office. However, the vision of the finished product must belong to God. As teachers, it is our mission to catch God's unique vision and then to communicate that vision to the child that we love. Ephesians 2:20-21 reminds believers that Jesus is the cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord (NASB). It is important to pray for God's vision for every child that walks upon the CCS campus. We can lose God's perspective in the busyness of the classroom and can easily equate a student with his or her performance on a math test or history project. Seeing a child just as God does is critical to building a warrior.

The qualities of a warrior are not quickly or easily achieved. For middle school students, the ideal of accepting Christ's call to action can be identified through holding a student accountable for the way he or she welcomes new students in class or for speaking up when someone in the hall gossips or suggests cheating on homework. The warrior quality of improving and working to strengthen abilities is built by consistent effort in each classroom and on the court or field. Young teens discover those areas that they love by trying new classes and activities. Meeting challenges with determination is required of a warrior. Developing perseverance grows from encouragement and support as middle school students work through age-appropriate assignments and circumstances that stretch them beyond their comfort zone. Finally, a young warrior-in-training must strive to move past failure and press forward. Teachers extend a hand, lifting up a middle schooler who has stumbled and needs to hear that the race is far from over and can still be won.

The warrior quality of improving and working to strengthen abilities is built by consistent effort in each classroom and on the court or field.

To be in the warrior-training business requires those who recognize the eternal value of a warrior and who are aiming for that prize themselves. Middle school teachers need a full tool kit and the blueprint of God's Word before them daily as they seek to build the qualities of a warrior into the lives of the precious students who walk the halls of CCS each day.

Middle School Highlights



Edible Cells



Experiencing God's World through the Microscope

The seventh grade Life Science Class started their study of the cell by first learning about the invention of the microscope. Then, students were able to experience the wonders of God's world by looking through microscopes at different plant, animal, and protist slides. The eight different microscope stations included a diverse range of slides such as a fruit fly, "striated" muscle tissue, beautiful skeletons of the radiolarian plankton-type organisms, a feather, and a paramecium. A favorite exercise involved looking at three types of mold and wondering if the "orange" mold was really attacking the "green" mold!

Edible Cells

Mrs. Hinn's seventh grade life science students enjoyed their "sweet" science project – building Edible Cells! Utilizing a large sugar cookie as the base, pairs of students showed their creativity and knowledge of the parts of a cell by adding items such as frosting, Jello, Gummie Worms, fruit, candy, crackers, and many other confections to make either a plant or animal cell from the cookie.

It's Just a Phase Lab

Mrs. Hinn's eighth grade physical science students were introduced to the science lab experience by conducting an experiment entitled "It's Just a Phase." The purpose of the lab was to investigate the solid-liquid phase changes for organic solids. Each team of students was given an "unknown substance" for their experiment. Teams measured temperature versus time as the liquefied substance cooled into a solid and then measured again as the solid was reheated into a liquid. They graphed the data to develop heating and cooling curves and then used that data to identify the melting point of their substance. Students were then given the melting point of three different "known" substances. Using their melting point data, the students were then able to determine the identity of their "unknown" substance!

Duke Talent

Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) recognizes outstanding performance in at least one specified area on a standardized test such as the Terra Nova, which is administered in the spring at Cypress Christian School. Congratulations



to the following students who qualified to participate in this highly-selective seventh grade honors program: John Ethan Baldwin, Lauren Beach, Madelynn Beckman, Gary Bittick, Gracen Fisk, Avery Gwyn, Joshua Holl, Ian Jones, Noah Lee, Daniel Moore, Ashley Newell, Isabel Pogson, Catherine Perry, Dalton Sanford, Julia Williams, and Caroline Wax (not shown in photo). We are thrilled by the opportunity that has been presented to these students based on academic ability. Our prayer is that God will be glorified through their endeavors as a Talent Search participant and in the future.

National Junior Honor Society

The 2012 Induction Ceremony for the Cypress Christian School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society was held in October. The formal candle-lighting ceremony and induction was followed by a reception for new inductees and their families. Congratulations to these students: Kate Blevins, Emily Boyd, Brent Ciftja, Aaron Clark, Nicholas Consoli, Sydney Crofton, Olivia Crozier, Korey Cyr, Davis Carver, Julia Davis, Madeline Echols, Audrey Floyd, Matthew Hawkins, Carmen Haynes, Hannah Hurst, Matthew Kooiman, Greyson Landrum, Lauren Lee, Caitlyn McCreary, Cole Miller, Heather Murrill, Rachel Salazar, Kailey Shanks, Morgan Spencer-Roth, Shelby Zerwas.



WHAT IS A WARRIOR?



LOVE

A Warrior serves and sacrifices for others. 1 John 4:19 We love, because He first loved us.



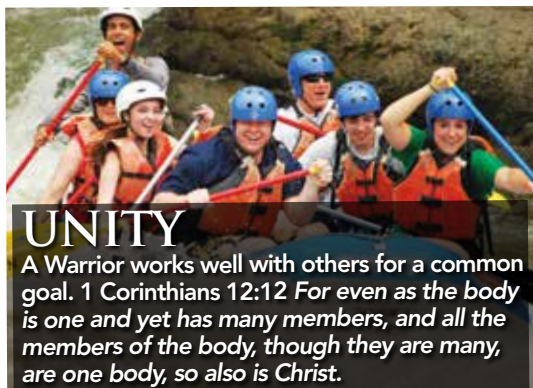
RESPECT

A Warrior respects others at all times. Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor.



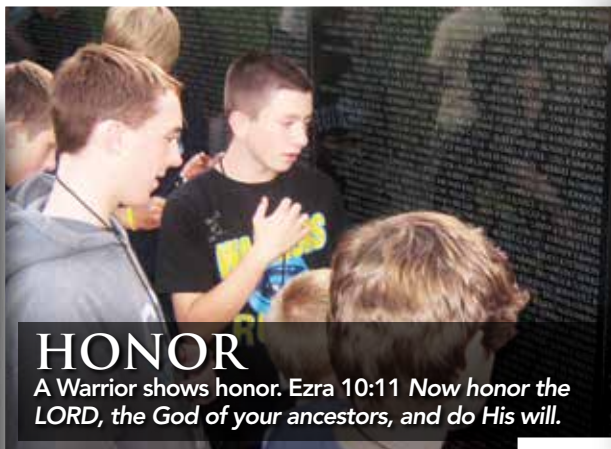
FAITH

A Warrior has faith in our sovereign God. Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.



UNITY

A Warrior works well with others for a common goal. 1 Corinthians 12:12 For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.



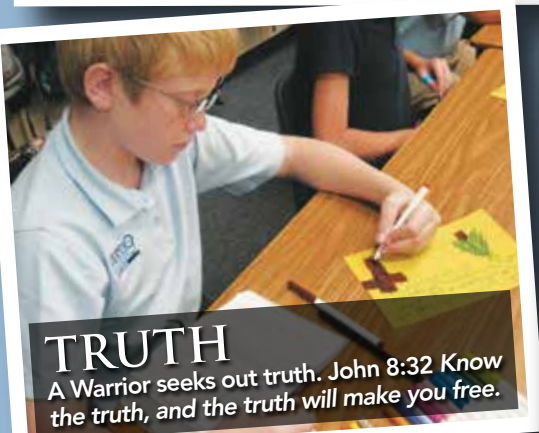
HONOR

A Warrior shows honor. Ezra 10:11 Now honor the LORD, the God of your ancestors, and do His will.



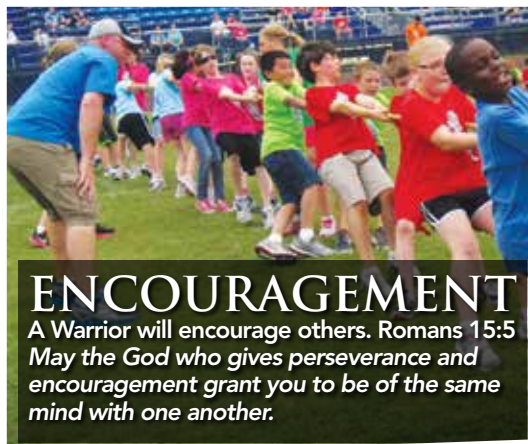
COURAGE

A Warrior stands for her conviction. Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Have I not commanded you? Be courageous! Do not tremble or be afraid, for the LORD your God is with you.



TRUTH

A Warrior seeks out truth. John 8:32 Know the truth, and the truth will make you free.



ENCOURAGEMENT

A Warrior will encourage others. Romans 15:5 May the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another.



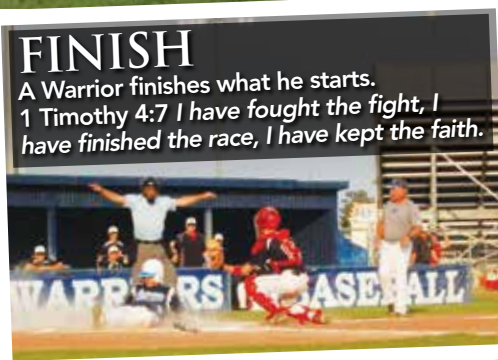
LOVE OF LEARNING

A Warrior is committed to a lifetime of learning and teaching. Proverbs 10:14 Wise men store up knowledge.



ENDURANCE

A Warrior runs with perseverance. Hebrews 10:36 You have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.



FINISH

A Warrior finishes what he starts. 1 Timothy 4:7 I have fought the fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.



HUMILITY

A Warrior is the first to give all. James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

I AM A WARRIOR

A CCS WARRIOR **AIMS**
FOR THE MARK OF THE
HIGH CALLING OF GOD
IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND
ACTION IN ORDER TO
POSITIVELY IMPACT THE
WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST.

A CCEPTS THE CALL TO ACTION.

I MPROVES TO REACH FULL
MENTAL, PHYSICAL, AND
SPIRITUAL POTENTIAL.

M EETS CHALLENGES WITH
DETERMINATION.

S TRIVES TO MOVE PAST FAILURES
AND TO PRESS FORWARD.

WORSHIP

A Warrior gives praise and honor to God.
Matthew 22:37 And He said to him, "You shall love
the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all
your soul, and with all your mind."

KNOWLEDGE

A Warrior seeks after wisdom. Proverbs 2:6
For the LORD gives wisdom; From His
mouth comes knowledge and understanding.

FRIENDSHIP

A Warrior is a committed friend. Proverbs 17:17
A friend loves at all times.

ENTHUSIASM

A Warrior lives with great joy. Psalm 100:2
Serve the LORD with gladness; Come
before Him with joyful singing.



FROM THE High School Principal

DR. GLENN HOLZMAN



*The Cypress Christian School Warriors pray together after every game. A Warrior has faith in our sovereign God.
"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1.*



Preparing Warriors

Many Christian parents are motivated to make the sacrifice to send their child to a Christian school in order to prepare them for the battle they will face by the secular humanistic culture that saturates the American landscape. That same motivation is what drives most of us who serve in Christian education. The challenge has always been how to discern if we have accomplished that task by the time the student has graduated high school. It does not appear in a report card or a standardized test. Recently the results from the Cardus Education Survey (CES) were published, shedding light on the impact Christian schools have on raising up the next generation for Christ. The study surveyed former students six to twenty-one years after high school graduation, thus determining the impact of Christian schools on adults in today's society. The results are extremely encouraging for both parents and Christian educators.



The CES found Christian school graduates are compliant, generous, outwardly-focused individuals who stabilize their communities by their uncommon commitment to their families, their churches, and larger society. Not only do they give more generously of both their money and their time, they can also be characterized by their unique hope and optimism about their lives and the future. In addition, Christian school graduates hold more strongly to the belief in moral absolutes. This translates into cultural issues as well. These graduates make moral decisions using Scripture rather than the world's ever changing secular humanistic standards.ⁱ

The Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) responded to the CES report by agreeing with Brian Simmons, an ACSI keynote speaker, in that parents and educators should have both a ten year and a 10,000 year goal for their children. The ten year goal includes developing a personal relationship with Christ, serving Him in their careers, and growing their own families to be devoted to the Lord. The 10,000 year goal is the foundational one: spending eternity in heaven with our Creator.ⁱⁱ The 10,000 year view is the framework for the ten year view.ⁱⁱⁱ

When asked "How was your team or season?" Head Football Coach Jacob Spenn always responds, "We will know in 10-15 years when we see what kind of men they have become."

Today at CCS there are many indicators that we are meeting our mission of academic excellence with biblical values for

When asked "How was your team or season?" Head Football Coach Jacob Spenn always responds, "We will know in 10-15 years when we see what kind of men they have become."

cultural impact. However, the best indicator will be ten years hence when we look at the paths our graduates have chosen and the lives they are leading. If the Cardus Education Survey is any indication, I am very optimistic that we are preparing the next generation of Warriors for Christ.

ⁱ Pennings, Ray, et al. Cardus Education Survey: Do the Motivations for Private Religious Catholic and Protestant Schooling in North America Align with Graduate Outcomes? Hamilton: Cardus, 2011. Print.

ⁱⁱ Brian, Simmons. "Preparing Fully Devoted Followers of Jesus Christ." ACSI Colorado Convention. Southeast Christian School, Parker. 6 Oct. 2011. Address.

ⁱⁱⁱ Scott, Philip, JD. Upon a Solid Foundation: The ACSI Response to and Expansion on the Cardus Education Survey. Publication. Colorado Springs: ACSI, 2012. Print.

High School Highlights



Science

High school students enjoyed multiple science experiments with the promise of more fun learning experiences to come.

SmartBoard

The SmartBoard is a wonderful asset to the classroom as it allows students and teachers to access a myriad of media at one time to enhance the learning experiences of students. The possibilities for uses in the classroom are endless, and students LOVE to use the SmartBoard!

American Sign Language

American Sign Language (ASL) students received real-world practice and put their ASL vocabulary to use by communicating with deaf visitors using hand signs only – no voice! All secondary students have had the opportunity to see American Sign Language in action during recent CCS chapel services as sign language interpreters translated worship and the message.



Student Photographers

CCS launched a new high school elective – Photography. Led by Secondary Teacher and CCS Alumnus Rachael Lechman, photography students are making a visual impact on CCS printed and online publications. Partnering with the Yearbook Class and the Communications Department, photography students strive to instill school pride as they capture campus life scenes with their cameras. During the first semester, students learned the importance of lighting, background, and the photographer's perspective. Thanks to photography students: Matt Bancroft, Avery Barbisch, Grayson Beck, Sarah Coffman, Caitlyn Epperson, Madison

Farquhar, Tommy Glazier, Justin Hicks, Sarah Kooiman, Winn McCoy, Ashley Milstead, Olivia Roberts, Rachel Vance, Keirsten Velez.

Senior Retreat

The 37-strong senior class of 2013 took a day-long trip to

Camp Allen for a spectacular day of camaraderie and class-building.

Ladybugs

Ladybugs is an organization for high school girls at CCS. Based on the passage in Titus 2 which tells how the older women encouraged the younger ones, the girls focus on discipleship and strive to grow in Christ together. The topic for the weekly devotion during the first semester was "Becoming Women of Excellence" based on the book of Ruth and the Proverbs 31 woman in the Bible. One of their goals this year is to participate in events that benefit disadvantaged teenage girls in our community.

National Honor Society

The 2012 Induction Ceremony for the CCS chapter of the National Honor Society was held in October. The formal candle-lighting ceremony and induction was followed by a reception for new inductees and their families. Congratulations to these students: Meredith Achterkirch, Kristin Beach, Jacob Borkovich, Lauren Bruder, Michael Bullock, Travis Chaffin, Seth Doggett, William Echols, Caleb Fowler, Nathaniel Lira, Paul Odeyomi, Sarah Mason, Winn McCoy, Tijani Mohammad, Abigail Rangel, Jonathan Rangel, Quin Roberts, Allison Sommers, Timothy Starbuck, Nathan Stockman, MaKayla Stowell, Sabrina Tovar, Zach Usry, Travis Vick, Shihao Zhou.

Prayer and Praise around the Flagpole

Junior Blaise Fontenot and Senior Joseph Ramsey led the 2012 See You at the Pole™ event based on Ephesians 3:14-21. They were joined by students, parents, teachers, and staff members to pray and worship before the school day began.



Ambassador Council

The Admissions Office provides leadership opportunities for students selected for the Ambassador Council. Students gain experience by volunteering at various admissions events and performing administrative duties. Leadership workshops focus on honoring the Lord through service to others. Admissions Director Angie Ramirez is excited to work alongside these students and mentor their leadership abilities. *Galatians 6:10 says: "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."*

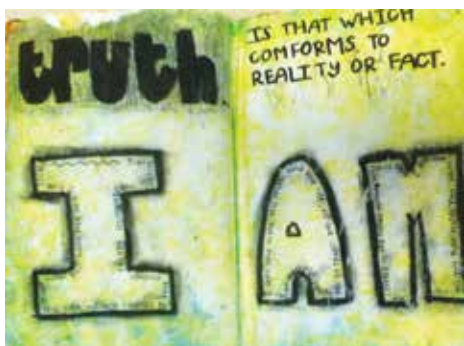


Fine Arts



Concert Choir

The CCS Concert Choir is 32 members strong and taking their love for singing to the masses to honor God and serve others. Their fall schedule included performances for Warrior football fans, guests at the Annual CCS Banquet, honorees at the Veterans Day Assembly, and special holiday performances for the community and CCS friends and families. The group also has an active spring schedule including competition and concerts. Please check the school website for upcoming performance dates.



Christian Faith in Art

High school art students worked on a unique project which involved repurposing old books. Students painted, glued, collaged, and lettered concepts that illustrate selected truths found in God's Word. The middle school Bible in Art class (BART) illustrated ten basic doctrines of the Christian faith. For each doctrine, students wrote the key verse and created an illustration to highlight the teaching.

Cartooning

Art students in middle school enjoy cartooning class to learn how to draw basic facial features and simple body construction. They also construct characters in action movements to use color and enhance illustrations. The goal is to create full storyboards with characters using dialog to tell a story.

Art Basics

Sixth grade art class consists of an introduction of values and understanding of how a light source can determine why an object is light or dark and the use of the pencil to create those shades. Also, students work with simple graphs to plot drawings and see simple lines instead of the object as a whole.

DRAMA

Middle School

Sixth Grade Musical Theatre students presented a lively rendition of the story of Noah and the Ark entitled *A Technicolor Promise*. Middle School Musical Theatre students were honored to be a part of sharing the message that we are all created in God's image (Psalm 139) through song, dance, and a clever story in their production of I.M.A.G.E.

High School

Drama students in high school enjoyed their debut at the homecoming pep rally with their skit based on the homecoming theme, *Mission Possible*, from Isaiah 6:8: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?' Then I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" These talented students also took great delight in performing their one-act play, *The Great Pandemonium*, in preparation for the TAPPS Regional One-Act Play contest.



LEAVING A MARK



God's Word reminds us that the most important

plan we have is "Leaving A Mark" wherever we go. Colossians 1:10 commands us to "...walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." The success of CCS athletics will be measured by the marks we leave, not by the points we score.



FOOTBALL

High School

The Warriors finished second in the district and advanced to the playoffs for the 5th straight year. The total impact of the football season on the lives of its players will not be known for 10+ years. However, this group of players learned to deal with a lot of adversity. The Warriors battled through the first half of the season but often came up short as they faced injuries and tough competition. The team continued to close the gap between their potential and performance and finished the regular season with four straight wins. Despite the tough start to the season, the Warriors

looked to make a deep playoff run. For the latest headlines, stats, highlights, and videos, visit CypressChristian.org/Football.

CCS Hosts Football Camp at Faith Center

Football players, coaches, and dads invaded a neighborhood that could use more smiles to host a football camp. Kids ages 2 to 17 enjoyed learning football, receiving apparel, and hearing the gospel. CCS players were greatly impacted through showing the love of Christ through the game of football.



Middle School

The middle school football season ended with home victories as the A team defeated Bay Area to end the season with a 4-5 record. The B team season came to a close with an enthusiastic team playing on a rain soaked field at CCS. Middle school

football is always about learning, growing, and closing the gap between potential and performance. It was evident that both the A and B teams improved and had a lot of fun in the process.





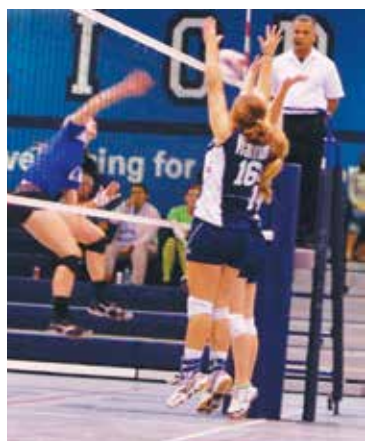
VOLLEYBALL

High School

Unity, perseverance, and flexibility describe the Lady Warriors 2012-13 volleyball season. They started with only 13 girls from both the JV and Varsity teams and then gained two new students, yet lost two others to injury. It took a lot of creativity, self-sacrifice, willing spirits, and good attitudes to finish the season strong and make the playoffs. Coach Campbell is thankful for a remarkable season. She said, "I know these girls are living out the Word of God. The Lady Warriors are "Leaving A Mark" by "being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose." They did "nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regarded one another as more important" than themselves. The Lady Warriors strived to be like Christ by putting Philippians 2:2-3 in action.

Powder-Puff Volleyball Game

The high school volleyball teams hosted the high school football team in a fun and competitive powder-puff match. Head Football Coach Jacob Spenn led an exercise called "Crazy Love" which encouraged the athletes to live out Ephesians 4:29 by building each other up and living out their faith.



Senior Recognition

Senior players were recognized at the last home game. Please see complete article about these players on the volleyball page of the school website. Shown in picture: Assistant Coach John Van Rieg, Alyssa Beach, Sarah Coffman, Shannen Longridge, and Head Coach Rebecca Campbell



Middle School

Congratulations to the Middle School A Team Lady Warriors who won 2nd in the end-of-season District Tournament. Both A and B Teams gave us a great season highlighted by strong effort and great attitudes! Coach Van Rieg commented on a great season by saying "I'm proud to be their coach!!!"

Athletics



WARRIOR SPIRIT

Cheerleading

Middle school and varsity cheerleaders are enjoying promoting and encouraging "Warrior Spirit." Over the summer, they attended the Fellowship of Christian Cheerleaders Cheer Camp. The squads spent time growing in Christ and in their cheerleading skills. While there, they not only learned new cheers and stunts, but also focused on how to use their talents and works for the glory of God. Varsity cheerleaders placed second in the Camp Championship with their all-music routine, and both teams were recognized for their daily and consistent determination as well as their positive attitudes.

Jr. Pep Squad

Jr. Pep Squad members, comprised of CCS K-5th graders, performed their cheer and dance routines for a packed crowd at Warrior Stadium. After a week of instruction from the CCS Varsity and Middle School Cheerleaders, they were ready to show off their skills! Working with and loving on the elementary Jr. Pep Squad gave cheerleaders a chance to put their CCS cheer motto into action – "Whatever we do, we aim to honor God."

Pom Squad

The Warrior Pom Squad cheers in the stands for home middle school football and basketball games. The girls are excited about using their poms and contagious Warrior spirit to serve the teams.

Warrior Spirit

Students enjoyed being selected as Football Fan of the Week to show their Warrior Spirit close to the action on the field!



ELEMENTARY SPORTS

With 14 teams and over 150 players, CCS has grown to one of the largest groups that participates in the West Houston Christian Sports Association. The philosophy of the league is to promote understanding of the game, as well as sportsmanship and Christian fellowship. Our players, coaches, and families have been a great representation of our school and our Savior.



For game schedules, stats, and articles throughout the year, please visit the athletic pages of the school website.



**You're
Invited!**

One Generation Impacting Another



You're invited to hear inspiring stories about how our teachers, students, and graduates are impacting lives. The Warrior Welcome Mission Tour includes heart-warming testimonies about how God is using CCS to make a difference for His Kingdom.

Please join CCS friends and family members who have taken part in this very special tour. In just one hour, you will be encouraged through the stories of changed lives that are just a small sample of what happens every day at Cypress Christian. You, too, will be glad you did!

"We really enjoyed the tour. It was interesting to see and hear real life success stories and accomplishments. Very inspiring! Great!"

"We are so excited about CCS. The personal stories are a testimony to the awesome work CCS is doing in and out of the classroom."

"It was an excellent use of time and great to hear from both elementary and secondary parents. We love the school and will look for ways to get involved."

"I enjoyed it! I loved it! The pictures and testimonies were amazing."

"Very impressed! It is nice to see the students involved so heavily in the community and that it is supported by the school."

**WARRIOR
WELCOME
MISSION
TOUR**

Upcoming one-hour mission tour dates and more information available at:
CypressChristian.org/Support/Warrior-Welcome.cfm



Alumni News

BEYOND THE WALLS OF CCS

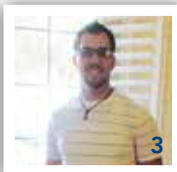
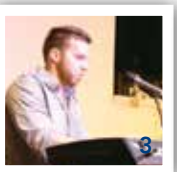
"CCS is living beyond the walls of its campus," writes an alumni parent. How true! We at CCS are excited about how God is moving in and through the lives of our graduates. May you be blessed and encouraged as you read the alumni pages of this magazine. For Alumni News throughout the year, please visit the Alumni section of our website under the About CCS tab.



1. Homecoming 2012 Thanks to our CCS graduates who traveled home to Cypress to join the fun at Homecoming 2012! We enjoyed visiting with them and, as always, it was fun watching as they posed for the annual half-time picture!

2. Winning Souls at UTSA Alumni parent Helen Mitchell writes: "The first week of college at UT San Antonio, **BEN MITCHELL ('12)**, **JASON GROLL ('12)** and **TROY MASON ('12)** met another student named Shane and invited him to attend Chi Alpha, a Christian ministry group on campus. Shane said he was an atheist, but he would go and 'see what it was about.' Over the course of several weeks, Shane occasionally hung out with them along with two other CCS grads – **JONATHAN MASON ('11)** and **DANIEL RODRIGUEZ ('11)** and also attended their Bible study. As a result, Shane began asking questions. Ben called CCS Bible Teacher Mr. Frankio to ask if he would speak to Shane and answer his questions. After a lengthy conversation with Mr. Frankio, Shane commented how cool it was that someone was able to answer his questions in a way he could understand! Recently, Shane went camping with Jonathan, Daniel, and other Chi Alpha members. Over the weekend, Shane announced, 'It's time,' and Jonathan and Daniel prayed with him to accept Christ as his Lord and Savior! During worship at the campsite, Shane was baptized. What a blessing it is to know that our 18-year-old son, away at college, is comfortable enough to call his high school teacher at CCS to help minister to a friend. What a blessing it is to have been a part of a school that continues to water the seeds that we as parents have planted."

3. Alumni Brothers: NICK RODRIGUEZ ('07) attends Sam Houston State University and will soon complete his marketing degree. He is a manager at Nature's Pest Solutions and is engaged to Bridget Pearce. **JOSH RODRIGUEZ ('10)** is attending All Nations School of Ministry and is excited about what God is doing in his life. He is pursuing his personal trainer license and is a member of The Ark Fellowship worship team playing drums and guitar. He is the owner of College Brothers Lawn Service. **DANIEL RODRIGUEZ ('11)** is attending UT San Antonio to earn a degree in Petroleum Engineering. (Also see above)



4. Alumni Sibling Soccer Players Excerpt from article by Sarah Minton on the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor website: "For **MICHAEL TEAGUE ('10)** and **ASHLEY TEAGUE ('11)**, soccer is a family thing. They played at Cypress Christian and now they play at UMHB. Michael is a junior pre-physical therapy major, and Ashley is a sophomore business management major. Both Michael and Ashley followed their older brother, **AUSTIN ('07)**, to UMHB who played for the Cru from 2007-2010. Austin ('07) is now attending graduate school at Texas A&M pursuing a masters in marketing. Ashley has been named female athlete of the week and offensive women's soccer player of the week for the American Southwest Conference. Michael is a true student-athlete and takes care of business on and off the field. He is vital to our program through his leadership, work ethic, and attitude."

5. White Coats For Future Doctors Two CCS graduates recently received their "white coats" signifying the next step in becoming a doctor. **ALLIE BORKOVICH ('08)** is attending medical school at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB). She hopes to become a pediatrician. Allie is shown with alumni mom Lori Borkovich. **CHRISTIE GAMBLE ('09)** is pursuing a PharmD degree (Doctor of Pharmacy) at Texas A&M Health Science Center Rangel College of Pharmacy. Shown with alumni dad Graham Gamble and brother and CCS junior Josh Gamble.

COLLEGE / MINISTRY

6. KRISTIN FRANCIS ('08) is working hard in therapy and doing well. Her new goal is to go back to college. Alumni brother **KYLE FRANCIS ('11)** is studying mechanical engineering at Texas A&M. Shown with alumni parents Kevin and Kathleen Francis

7. CATRINA BEATY ('09) will graduate from Houston Baptist University with a degree in History and a minor in Christianity and marry her fiancé, Jeff Hull, in spring 2013. Catrina recently traveled to Romania where she was born and adopted. She writes, "One of the highlights of the trip was being able to tell my testimony at VBS of how God saved me not only from physical death, but also from spiritual death. I also helped teach an English class to Romanian teens, hosted a women's retreat, passed out gospel tracts, and evangelized. Going back to Romania was something I never thought I would do, but God's plans aren't ours and as my life verse Ecclesiastes 3:11 states... 'we can't fully comprehend the full scope of God's work from beginning to end, and that He has made everything beautiful in His time.'" Shown with alumni parents Tom and Bonnie Beaty and fiancé Jeff Hull



GRADUATIONS

8. CHARIS MEDENDORP ('09) is a senior at Calvin College of Liberal Arts pursuing an English major and a writing minor. She writes: "I had the wonderful opportunity of touring Asia with the top Calvin choir, Capella. The themed tour was entitled "A Drop In The Ocean" after a quote by Mother Teresa, who brought the beauty of music and the message of Christ to Hong Kong, China, the Philippines, and Singapore. As a second soprano, I personally witnessed the magnificence of God's work through music. Also, I studied phonetics and creative writing at York St. John University in York, England, as well as British sport and history and the history of the ancient and modern Olympics. I was blessed to experience the cultures of England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Hong Kong, China, the Philippines, Singapore, and Greece, and cultivate relationships in countries all over the world. God has truly blessed me by allowing me to learn more about His world and His work through music, education, and writing. I am truly grateful for the support and encouragement given to me by my friends and peers at CCS."

9. BRIAN FREDRICH ('10) spent time in Africa working as a research assistant to a team of biologists in Namibia. He is a junior at Westminster College in Salt Lake City studying elementary and special education. Brian's mom wrote: "I've visited Brian and God has blessed me by showing me the growth that Brian is experiencing. I give the credit to CCS for giving Brian the chance to blossom that public school did not. I give glory to God for leading us to CCS where Brian spent those most important high school years!"

10. LEXUS VAN PELT ('11) is a starter on the Women's Soccer Team at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is majoring in Criminal Justice.

11. CHELSEA VINCENT ('11) interned in Houston's Fifth Ward helping underprivileged students prepare for high school and college under Dr. Emerson of Rice University and Mr. Goza of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. She will transfer from Lone Star College with an Associates of Liberal Arts to a four year college to earn a Bachelor of Music. She works at Senior Partners Madison Ave. Securities.

12. AMANDA WILHITE ('11) traveled with her brother, **TRAVIS (CCS SENIOR)**, to Jinga, Uganda. They worked on the church of a pastor The Met supports and hosted VBS at schools and a community children's festival. The VBS consisted of a time for crafts, recreation with relays and giant parachutes, a big group session with KKrew (a Kenyan-based Christian youth outreach group), and a gospel presentation. Over the three days, 3,000 children came and 352 people accepted Christ. They also got the chance to go jet boating on the Nile River. "It was awesome to end the trip by speeding down the river taking in the beauty of the land while thinking back on all God had done in the previous days," said Amanda.

13. COURTNEY HIGGS ('06) completed her Masters in Business Administration at Belhaven College and accepted the position of Staff Tax Associate at Briggs & Veselka Company. She is excited to be home with family and looking forward to what God has planned because as she said, "He is the one who made all of this happen!" Shown with alumni parents Neil and Lonna Higgs.

14. EVAN WEPPLER ('07) graduated from Baylor University (University Scholars – Concentration on Communications and Religion) after finishing his thesis entitled "The Virtuous Pevenies on the Role of the Cardinal Virtues in CS Lewis' *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*." He served on the summer leadership and day camp programming teams at Forest Glen Camps in Huntsville, TX. Evan is now a member of the Wheaton College Christian Formation and Ministry Graduate Program focusing on ministry to children and families. Shown with former CCS Bible teacher Judy Holzman

15. COURTNEY MIDDLETON ('08) graduated with honors from Johnson and Wales University in Denver, Colorado with a Bachelors of Science degree in Fashion Merchandising and Retail Marketing. She is enjoying her position as Merchandise Assistant for Charming Charlie.

16. RACHEL WROBLESKE ('08) graduated from Baylor University with a BFA in Theatre Performance and a minor in Film and Digital Media. She teaches 5th and 6th grade homeschool English classes. Rachel has also been signed by a talent agency and will pursue acting. She is engaged to be married to Grant Hall, a graduate student at Baylor University.

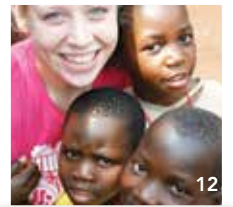
17. MICHELLE VAN RIEG ('08) graduated from Sam Houston State University with a BS in Psychology and lives and works in Waco. She is engaged to be married to Brett Stanton (graduate of Baylor University) in December 2012.

CAREERS / MINISTRY

18. LESLIE FOLLMAR CREATH ('99) and husband, Matthew, live in Springfield, MO, where Matthew is an Associate Missions Pastor, working with church plants in the US and abroad. Leslie teaches seventh grade World Geography and leads worship for women's ministries.

19. TRACEE MARTIN ('99) is teaching seventh grade English and middle school Creative Writing at Fort Bend Christian Academy. She is also coaching the 8th grade Gold Girls' Basketball Team.

20. SUSAN MAYES ('01) has returned to CCS to serve students in the Huff Learning Center. Susan is a professionally certified NILD Educational Therapist and is excited about how God is using her to help students achieve academic success. Her credentials are as follows: Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies, Master of Education in Educational Psychology, EC-12th Grade Special Education Certified, Professionally Certified NILD Educational Therapist, five years teaching experience.



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21. SYDNEY ANN BINION SHOOK ('04) is studying for her masters at Fuller Theological Seminary in Los Angeles while also teaching English. Sydney and her husband, David (former CCS student), have enjoyed traveling, meeting famous people, making documentary films, and working in international community-based development.

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22. ASHLEY JENKINS ('05) is the Department Chair of Science at Harmony School of Fine Arts and Technology. She teaches sixth grade science and "loves every minute of it. I can't imagine being anywhere else." She also coaches club volleyball at Texas Alliance Volleyball Club in Houston.

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23. LINDSAY EHRHARDT ('05) has been touring as "Ms. Fizzle" in Main Street Theater's touring production of "The Magic School Bus." Her next role is the lead in Main Street's production of "A Wrinkle in Time."

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24. SARAH MATHEWES ('06) is the Lead Preschool Teacher at Primrose Private School in Summerwood. She also teaches Sunday School for young children. She is so glad to be serving God in these ways.

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25. ALAYNA MATRANGA ('07) and her family are involved in the Zambian orphan mission. Alayna recently helped coordinate fundraising efforts for the Messiah House. Please email almatranga@gmail.com for more information about this project.

WEDDINGS

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26. LIZ PATTERSON TEWS ('02) and Travis were married in May 2012 after Travis returned home from duty in Iraq. They are stationed at Fort Hood while Travis continues his career as an Infantry Soldier in the U.S. Army until his discharge in 2013. Liz works for Veterans' Affairs in Waco.

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27. BEAU ADAM ('06) married Jamie Smith in August 2012. Beau is a graduate of Texas Tech and is employed by Amerisource Funding. CCS Alumni in the wedding were groomsmen **JOSH GRABER ('06)**, and **DAVID TAYLOR ('06)** and bridesmaid **LINDSAY ADAM SANTOS ('08)**.

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28. DIDIER KOLLO ('06) and **BELKIS MEDENDORP KOLLO ('07)** were married in June 2012 and live in Little Rock, AR. Didier works at Verizon wireless in technical support and Belkis works for a food stamp company while attending school to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. Belkis wrote, "We are so excited to see what God has in store for us as we take this journey as husband and wife!"

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29. SALLY ANNE GRIMES JOHNSON ('08) and Andrew wed in June 2012 after Sally graduated cum laude from Houston Baptist University with honors degrees in English and Biblical Languages (Greek/Hebrew). Sally was bequeathed with the honor of the President's Award, eight semesters on the Dean's List, and was named HBU Homecoming Queen. She is teaching seventh and eighth grade Latin at Providence

Classical School. Andrew graduated from HBU and is in full-time vocational ministry. Alumni in the wedding party were Matron of Honor **EMILY GRIMES SEEHAUSEN ('05)**, Maid of Honor **COURTNEY MIDDLETON ('08)**, House Party Member **LINDSAY EHRHARDT ('05)**, and usher **RYAN MOON ('07)**.

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30. LINDSEY ADAM SANTOS ('08) married Ricardo in May 2012. She will continue working toward her degree in nursing at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

CHILDREN

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31. BYRON MOORE ('99) and wife, Carlee, (former CCS secondary receptionist) welcomed daughter Darci Jane in June.

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32. SCOTT POTTER ('02) and wife, Brooke, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Ryann Sloane Potter, born September 21. Scott and Brooke also have two sons, Ty and Noah.

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33. HEATHER BENNETT PUCEK ('03) and husband, AJ, welcomed daughter Heidi Joy into their family.

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34. ROXY WISDOM VANWINKLE ('03) and husband, Calvin, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Audrey, born in October.

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35. KRISTEN PANTHER JEPSON ('04) and husband, Brett, welcomed baby Bryce. Kristen teaches kindergarten/first grade at a public school in the Dallas area. She loves working there and serving alongside fellow Christians.

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36. JUSTIN KIRTLEY ('04) and wife, Natalie (former CCS teacher), welcomed baby daughter, Carlee, in July 2012.

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37. MICHELLE BURCHFIELD WEST ('06) and husband, Justin, are enjoying new baby boy, Asher. Michelle is a full-time student at Texas School of Business studying medical billing and coding.

IN MEMORY

CCS is thankful for these two servants who shared their time and talents with CCS. They are now home with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We will miss them. Please keep their families in your prayers.

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38. Former CCS Board Member BOB VELTEN was a gentle, caring man who had a winsome smile and joyful attitude. His wisdom and sense of humor were an asset to the CCS Board of Directors. He is shown with wife, Vickie (former CCS VIP President), and sons Luke and Ben (former CCS students).

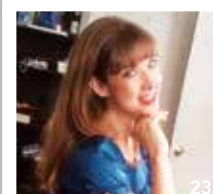
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39. Former CCS Volunteer and Alumni Mom TRACEY JENKINS was a wonderful wife, mother, and friend. She spent countless hours volunteering at CCS and was a HUGE Warrior fan! We will miss her contagious smile and laughter. Tracey is shown with daughter **ASHLEY JENKINS ('05)**.



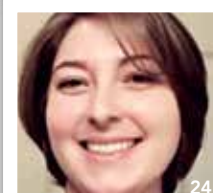
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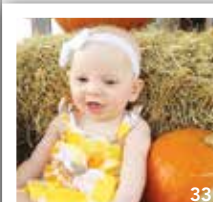
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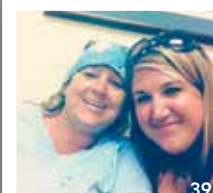
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CCS Alumnus Hunter Floyd in Full-Time Ministry in Las Vegas



CCS Alumnus Hunter Floyd graduated from Cypress Christian School in 2007 and expressed his thankfulness for God placing him at CCS: "As a direct result of the school and the relationships I

made at CCS, I became a son of God my junior year. Since then, God has worked in my life and shown me the greatness of His Kingdom daily." In May of this year, after graduating from

Liberty University with a degree in Biblical Studies, Hunter and his wife, Carissa, moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, to plant a church, along with a team of fellow Christians. They have successfully planted that church (called **Grace City Vegas**) and already have over 100 members in attendance in just a few months! Hunter says, "The goal of Grace City is to do tough things, in tough places, so that God gets all the glory."

WHY VEGAS? – IT IS A STRONGHOLD OF THE ENEMY TO BE CONFRONTED

Hunter recently explained why he and the team he serves with chose Las Vegas as a place to plant a church: "The closed country of China has an evangelical Christian community that consists of roughly six percent of its population, whereas Las Vegas has a

Christian population of four percent. While temptations and sin exist in every country and city, Las Vegas is a particular stronghold to those who are seeking to find identity and fill the God-shaped void in their lives. Whether it is addictions, fantasies, or emptiness, many come and stay in this neon city to hopefully find what it is they are searching for. Our mission is to help those lost and broken people experience their true identity, and the freedom that comes with it, as sons and daughters of God."

REPORTS FROM THE FRONT LINE

SUCCESS WITH COLLEGE STUDENTS

Hunter and the team he works with are very involved in the college campus of University of Nevada Las Vegas. Currently, Hunter holds two Bible studies during the week that are both growing with an average of 80 attendees. Students love having a place to meet with each other, to talk openly about their struggles, and to be encouraged by truth.

SUCCESS WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Hunter and the team he works with have seen God's favor in the public middle school that they meet in for church services. The school has

allowed them to partner with their campus, letting them come into school for lunch and just talk with kids, serve the teachers, get to know the student leadership, and even announce their Bible studies over the P.A. for the whole school to hear! God certainly is good!

SUCCESS AND PROVIDENCE FOR HUNTER AND TEAM

God has granted Hunter and his teammates favor and continues to open door after door as they have continued to seek Him, His presence, and His will. As a team, they do ministry full time. Hunter says, "For the first time in my life I can say that I am spending my days with God. While not always easy, it's amazing to depend on God for literally every need and see Him provide. Ministry is what we do, disciple makers is who we are."

GOD'S GRACE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. Out of

His fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ" John 1:14-17.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9



If you would like more information about the work Hunter and Carissa are involved in, or want to know how you can be a partner with them in their exciting work, please go to www.GraceCityVegas.com. If you would like to receive updates about their ministry or would like to know how to pray for Hunter and Carissa, you can contact Hunter at Hunter@GraceCityVegas.com or by mail at Grace City Church, P.O. Box 97815, Las Vegas, NV, 89193.

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