

Ministry to our community through CCS.

by Linda Sawanowich

In John 7:38, Jesus says, "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.'" Living water sustains life and brings healing. As a Christian school, and a ministry of CRPC, Calvary Classical School pours out that living water to the community. Here are some examples:

* Students in kindergarten are encouraged to go home and request that their parents read the lessons from the Bible again. Kindergartners love to share their Bible lessons with their parents, and parents have commented on the details that the students can relate regarding the lessons and their application. One parent this year wrote the following: "My proudest moment as a dad, I must say, is when [my son] told his family and friends at his church recently the meaning of the cross and the love of Jesus. He particularly talked about the resurrection and how one of the prisoners adjacent to Christ on the cross accepted the Lord that day and was told he would spend eternity in paradise. Most of this he learned from CCS."

*Each year school families have the opportunity to reach out to others in need. Canned food drives to assist Berachah food pantry, bike-a-thons and bake sales to support Lagniappe Church's hurricane relief, baby bottle drives for the pregnancy center, and meals at Peninsula Rescue Mission are just a few of the outreach opportunities that students participated in during the last year.

The greatest joy of all comes from the opportunities to apply the truth of God's Word to the lessons we are learning. We have the privilege daily to show that in Christ "are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Col 2:3).

"Whoever receives one child like this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me does not receive Me, but Him who Sent me"

~ Mark 9:37

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of my Father who is in heaven. For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost"

~Matthew 18:10-11



The Diaconate

Mark Kroll, Chairman

Dave Bailey

Chris Cashen

Gary Grant

Jake Hughes

Ron Moore

Dan Phillips

Calvary Reformed Presbyterian Church

403 Whealton Road
Hampton, VA. 23666
Phone (757) 826-5942
Fax (757) 825-5843

DIACONIA

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"Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world." - James 1:17



Children: A Field Ripe For Harvest

This summer our church was engaged in sharing the gospel both in our community and abroad. In three Backyard Bible Clubs in the cities of Hampton and Newport News and in a Vacation Bible School in Georgia, children were unabashedly confronted with our righteous God, our sinful hearts, and Jesus Christ who died to reconcile us to Him. When those involved in these ministries shared their experience, there was a clear recurring theme: "... the harvest truly is plentiful" Matt 9:37.

Anyone who has had the opportunity to share Jesus with children can attest to their simple, humble faith. Children are inclined to believe in God. They are willing to listen, able to understand, and often unhindered by the pride that opposes the gospel. In fact, the faith of a child must be emulated if one is to be a member in God's kingdom. "Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it *at all*." (Mark 10:15).

The children touched by these ministries this past summer walked away with their minds affected by the gospel and the Bible verses they committed to memory will be used by the Lord throughout their life. Calvary has been involved in these types of children's ministries in several foreign countries. Children in Mexico, Peru, Scotland, and Northern Ireland have all been touched by the gospel through mission teams sent by our church. But do you know what children's ministry has had the greatest impact in our community?

Calvary Classical School is one of our church's most prolific outlets for the gospel. The teachers, staff, and volunteers of our school are engaged every day in the ministry of sharing the gospel to children... **and so are you!**

At a congregational meeting held to approve the financing for a new school facility, our church showed its commitment to outreach through this ministry. Soon our property will be bustling with the sounds of construction of the first phase of a site plan designed to transform our church property into a ministry campus.

This is an exciting time in the life of our church. The construction of the new building and the improvements to the existing church facility proclaim to the world that Christ is on the move. The spiritual and physical growth of the ministries of our church are a modern day fulfillment of the prayer Christ taught us to pray saying "...Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven".

How have you helped in the ministry of our school? Too often we excuse ourselves from opportunities to serve by prioritizing ministries as they apply to our own needs. The deacons challenge you to see Calvary Classical School as *your* ministry. We bear the responsibility of the CCS ministry as much as the administrators and teachers in the classroom. The giver, the builder, the cleaner, the planner, we all share in the joy of one convert to Christ.

Our prayer is that God will grant you wisdom in the use of your resources as you plan your giving for the new year. Your financial contributions as well as your hand in certain portions of the construction will help pay off our loan and reduce overall costs. Your sacrifice will be a sacrifice for the advance of the gospel.

Your partners in the gospel,
The Diaconate

The philosophy of Calvary Classical School

- **True knowledge is impossible without recognition of God (Proverbs 1:7; Romans 1:18-23).** God, the Creator of heaven and earth, cannot be rightly separated from history, literature, mathematics, science, or any other academic discipline. The whole range and content of education must be centered on God and His Word, so that students develop a thoroughly Biblical view of all of life.
- **Man's chief purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever (Psalm 73:25-28; 1 Corinthians 10:31).** In His providence and goodness, God has bestowed on mankind the ability to explore, investigate, and discover truths about the universe, in order to exercise dominion over it and to bring Him glory. Christian education must diligently strive to develop each individual's God-given capacities so that they may be used to God's glory.
- **Parents are to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Ephesians 6:4).** The primary responsibility for education rests not on the school, but on the parents to whom children are entrusted by God. Parents have a covenantal responsibility to provide for their children a distinctively Christian education; nevertheless, it is proper for parents to associate with others in this task, and enlist the aid of Christians especially equipped with the gift of teaching.

-www.calvaryclassical.org