



N E W S L E T T E R

1425 Co Rd 134 St. Cloud MN 56303 ~ ~
320-251-2801 Fax: 320-251-4997 ~ ~

granitecitybaptist.org
info@granitecitybaptist.org

July-August

2013



ADMINISTRATOR AGENDA

Pastor Dennis D. Campbell
D. Min., M. Div., Central Baptist
Theological Seminary
B.S., South Dakota State Univ.
Bob Jones University 2 years

The new school year will begin Sept. 3 (the day after Labor Day). We are praying for a minimum of 30 students, and there are several new families showing positive interest in the Academy. Pre-season soccer/volleyball practice will be from 1-3pm on Tue. and Fri. Aug. 20th & 23rd. Training for new monitors will be 9am to 4pm M-F Aug 26-30. New student testing is 9am-12N on Mon & Tue, Aug 26-27. Monitor Review Training is 9am-3pm on Th/Fri Aug 29-30. Granite City Baptist Academy begins at 8:30am on Tue. Sept 3, with Parent Orientation at 7pm that evening. Parent Training is 9am-3pm on Sat. Sept 7th.

We look forward to a new school year with a number of new students. We have the annual Soccer/VB Tournament scheduled along with some great monthly films for the students.

THE VALUE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By Paul Chappell (Part 1 of 3)

Some see the primary values of Christian education as providing a safe environment, higher academic standards, & better influences. Although all of those benefits may be present, the primary goal of Christian education is so much higher. It is to teach our children God's Word as a foundation for every aspect of life.

I. A WEIGHTY RESPONSIBILITY

Each child is a gift – especially created by God with great value and a special purpose. What an honor that God has chosen to entrust these treasures to us! Psalms 127:3 tells us, “Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.”

Proverbs 22:6 instructs, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”



Continued P. 2



Mrs. Jenny Burich Testimony **Parent & Learning** **Center Monitor**

I was born in Minnesota, but I lived in Kansas, Arizona, Kentucky, and Panama, as my dad was in the Army. When I was nine years old we moved back to Minnesota to be close to our relatives.

I was raised Lutheran by name, and started to attend when my sisters and I reached the age to start confirmation. We stopped attending after my younger sister was confirmed. During confirmation classes we were taught some of the basics: the Ten Commandments, the books of the Bible, the Lord's Prayer, and that Jesus was Virgin Born and He was crucified for our sins. With the exception of reading the Christmas story each year, my family never opened a Bible at church or home.

Even though I thought of myself as a “good” person trying to be kind to others, I had gone down some very bad and sinful roads. Though I did not have a lot of hope of being worthy of going to Heaven, I was hoping God saw something worthwhile in me to allow me to go to Heaven.

When my daughter was born, I felt a spiritual need and started attending a Lutheran church. However, there was more concern there with money than my attendance of weekly services. If I wasn't giving the amount they had specified, I received notices in the mail. I never felt a part of the church, and I stopped going.

After a while I started searching again, and found a non-denominational church where the people were more open and friendly. After a year or two, I still had a feeling that something was missing. Eventually we stopped attending and I stopped looking. There were many more bad decisions over the next few years, all of which led to my husband and I separating. I was living for self, which added more heartache and pain. Our child was confused, hurt, and sad.

One morning I woke up feeling lost, confused, hurt, overwhelmed, and like a complete failure as a wife and mother. I no longer knew what to do, and I got down on my knees and begged the Lord to show me what I was supposed to do. The moment I was done praying, I had an overwhelming feeling that I needed to go home. I immediately packed everything up and was back in my home that afternoon. My hurts and anger were still there, but I knew my first step was to return home. My husband and I both agreed we needed counseling, but not the worldly counseling that advises you to put yourself first. We wanted

Continued P. 2

A TRUST GIVEN TO PARENTS

Deuteronomy 6:6-7, “And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”

One of the greatest problems facing America today is the tragic falling apart of the family. To be sure, parents may in fact involve others in the process of teaching their children. For instance, God has ordained the church to teach God’s truth to the entire family and to augment parents as they transfer truth to the next generation.

THE MANDATE OF THE CHURCH



Nearly two thousand year ago, Christ established the institution through which He would carry out His work on earth – the local church. As we’ll see shortly, the church is an incredible benefit to the family – each member individually and the family as a whole.

Shortly before Jesus ascended to Heaven, He gave what we call the Great Commission. Matthew 28:19, 20,

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

The church’s teaching role is vital in the process of propagating truth to the next generation. Children in a strong Christian school learn to see all areas of life through the lens of God’s Word. From that vantage point, they explore the incredible intricacies of God’s creation through a microscope. In history, economics, math, and English, students learn to apply God’s principles and see life through God’s perspective.

BURICH TESTIMONY CONTINUED

Christian counseling, to be taught how God wanted our marriage and family to live and treat one another – to grow stronger together and to become a team – a whole, instead of individuals. During our separation, we started attending Granite City Baptist Church on a recommendation from Jesse’s mother’s pastor in Hutchinson. We both agreed this was the place to get solid, godly counseling.

On the first day of counseling on 7/30/11 at 1:45p.m., I repented of my sins and accepted Jesus as my Savior, my only way to Heaven. I realized Jesus still loved me and wanted me, no matter how sinful my past was or how many wrong choices I had made. Though I didn’t deserve it then and still do not deserve it, Jesus saved my soul from Hell that day, and no one can ever take away my salvation. Jesus is holding me tightly in his hand.

At the moment of my salvation, all the hurts, pains, and disappointments of my past washed away. I felt real joy, my heart was no longer heavy and burdened, and I felt light and happy inside. Each day I am growing in my faith and learning more from reading the Bible and listening to pastor preach. I did not become

an instant, super Christian; but looking back to before Jesus saved me, I can see many changes and blessings in my life.

We had enrolled Ellie in Granite City Baptist Academy, and my first involvement was as a Reading Monitor for the Junior Learning Center students. I so enjoyed coming in each week to listen to the children read. What a joy to hear their reading skills get stronger throughout the school year. Children are a gift, and I counted myself very blessed to get to spend time with them and to get to know each of them.

This past school year I served as a Learning Center Monitor, and my blessings increased tremendously. What a joy to be a part of a school that cares about the development of the whole child – academically, physically, spiritually, musically, emotionally, and builds their self confidence. As a monitor, I have the pleasure of watching each child grow throughout the school year.

Prior to our separation, my husband and I had agreed we no longer wanted our daughter in the public school system for many reasons. She was not allowed to pray before her meals, and the environment was affecting her emotions and behavior. A child spends over 30 hours each week at school, which is a lot of time to be influenced. Ellie was being physically and emotionally bullied. She would come home talking about sexual things that no 7-year old should know about. Her attitude became worse and worse. She started treating others the way she was being treated. She was not being challenged academically, and would have to sit idle while the teacher stopped to help other children that were behind academically or couldn’t speak English well. So she would get bored and start talking and goofing around, which led to her teacher telling me about how ADHD drugs were so helpful to her nephew, but as a teacher, she was “unable to recommend them for Ellie; but I should look into it.”

At GCBA Ellie is challenged academically, because her lessons are personalized just for her, having been tested to see where she was academically. Each day Ellie is responsible for setting goals, and then achieving them, while being monitored and encouraged by her teachers to challenge herself. Through all of this, not once did anyone mention or hint about ADHD drugs for Ellie.

The Academy has excellent physical education and music training. It is exciting to see the joy in Ellie’s eyes when she plays a song for me on her instrument, or comes home and tells me how she beat her previous record in running, sit-ups, pull-ups, etc. Spiritually Ellie has grown in leaps and bounds. The Academy Program helps students to develop talents they may not even be aware of, helping them to be the best they can be.

If any of you are in the same position my husband and I were two years ago, please come to visit GCBA. Here children are not judged by the clothes they wear or the gadgets they have. Rather, fellow students appreciate one another for who they are, not what they have. The Academy is a place where children receive not only a top education that surpasses the public school, they become part of something special – a place where teachers are personally invested in each child’s life, creating a bond that I have never seen between a teacher and a student. This is not a short one-year bond, it becomes like a family, with the bond and respect getting stronger with each passing year from kindergarten through 12th grade. GCBA is a school where students are loved, and the staff wants nothing but the best for them.