



## **Phase One Begins!**

Praise to the Lord and thanks to many, we have now reached our first goal - \$800,000. We are now proceeding with plans for our first phase. When we launched this 3 year capital stewardship campaign in January, we began working in the background so that when this time came, we would already be well on our way. We secured an architect to design the first two buildings, updated our site plan with the county, and much more. Now it is "full steam ahead" and we are rejoicing! We will have a ground breaking ceremony once we've secured permitting. Looking ahead, remember that this first building will allow us to clear the fellowship hall of all offices so that we can redesign the perimeter classes. This will make better use of the side rooms for our Sunday Connection Groups and Community Christian School classrooms.

## **Phases Two & Three**

With eyes of faith and hopeful hearts, we are already working to prepare for the next two phases. Phase Two will allow our maintenance office to move out of the fellowship hall and provide work space and storage room for their equipment. We will also take care of some issues in our 37 year old worship center. Phase Three will complete our fellowship hall renovation with reconfigured classrooms, updated bathrooms and kitchen, new carpet, and a Sunday Café where we can connect as a family!

## **Phase Four**

The first three Phases prepare the way for us to continue all our present ministries while removing the 5 aging portables to replace them with the third building. This gives us more classes for our Connection Groups and allows Community Christian School to receive more families. Please remember that C.C.S. is one of our primary evangelistic ministries. Families are waiting and asking us to receive their children. But sadly, we have no more room. Imagine if we could receive another hundred children, leading them to Christ, discipling them to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ, and reaching their family members. Please give to GROW so we can reach more students for Christ.

## **Why we need more classrooms for C.C.S.**

Community Christian School is delighted to inform you that we received full accreditation status from both Christian Schools International and AdvancEd. This is the culmination of a two-year process, and our school has taken drastic steps of improving along the way. Our long-standing membership and accreditation with ACSI provides our students with the opportunities for music festivals, competitions for writing and composition, Math Olympics, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, and much more! These two new agencies give us the 'stamp of approval' in both the Christian and secular worlds of education. AdvancEd is the same secular agency that recognizes the accreditation of our state colleges and universities, and our affiliation with them will ensure our students have no issues as they further their education wherever they choose.



While we are an education institution and we work hard in pursuing high levels of academia, our primary purpose is that students become faithful followers of Jesus Christ. More than 20 students have prayed to receive Christ this year, and we have over 50 students participating in on-campus Bible studies! Praise the Lord!

We are working hard to ensure that we are evangelistic in the ways we present the Gospel to children who are not yet Believers. We seek to engage all our students in meaningful areas of service in the community, as they are growing in their faith and following Jesus, our Servant Leader. We are also wanting to engage our students in discipleship opportunities so they can grow in their faith. Sadly, every year we turn away fantastic families that we would love to have as part of the CCS family. The only option we have to expand our ministry and increase our square footage is by completing the four-phase GROW campaign. Please pray with us, and ask the Lord how He would want you to be part of this emphasis! We want to be ready to receive any family who wishes to partner with us for their child's distinctly Christian education.

## **Why we need more classrooms for Connection Groups**



**Genevieve** – “Sunday morning Groups have been extremely meaningful to me for the past four decades as I was called to teach. I am constantly making sure I understand the principles well enough to share with others. God's word is truth, and it does set us free.”

**Bernard** – “I love the opportunity to connect with other members in fellowship. It is so important that we recognize the fact that we need each other as we grow in Christ.”

**Andy** – “When James and Karen Johnson started our Group they called it “One Life”. What that means is we do life ‘together.’ How that has played out in our class is that we are a family. My classmates have become my brothers and sisters. We share life’s ups and

downs. Our kids play and grow up together. My kids now have all of these other Godly men and women to model their lives after. This all makes studying the Word together so much easier as we can ask tough questions and share life experiences without fear. We share prayer requests each week which are sent out via email and it is so comforting and strengthening to know that the class is praying for me and my family. As God’s Word says “Iron sharpens Iron”. That is exactly what happens in our Connection Group! I am so thankful for our Connection Group. I truly love my classmates and

their families.”



### **Out of the mouth of babes**

**True Story from this week** – Jackson found a penny on the ground. He said, “Look mommy. I’m going to pick this up and clean it. Then I can put it in the offering plate on Sunday and it can help pay for the GROW thing...”

### **The widow’s mite – Luke 21:1-4**

*Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, “Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more*

*than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had.”* As you pray about participating, remember these truths.

1. As you give, you are giving to the Lord, and He knows what you are giving.
2. It’s not equal giving, but equal sacrifice. Some will be able to give a lot. Some can only give a little. The key is to give. It’s an offering – to the Lord – investing in His kingdom.
3. Consider where you might sacrifice so that you can give. Would you give up a cup or two of coffee? A clothing item you really don’t ‘need’? Imagine if all of us sacrificed something, and took that money and presented it to God as an offering – an investment in His Kingdom! A lot of littles can add up to a lot!
4. When you give, in your heart, present it to God. Let it be an expression of worship to Him. *“For You, Lord.”*

Thank you!