

Fourth Baptist Christian School

# Warrior Quarterly Newsletter

Christ-Centered Academic Excellence!

Mission Statement

*Fourth Baptist Christian School, as a ministry of Fourth Baptist Church, is committed to the development of a student's spiritual life in Jesus Christ, while pursuing academic excellence in a manner which honors and glorifies God, based on the only infallible Word, the Bible.*

## Social Justice Curriculum – More Thoughts...

In our last MACS newsletter article, we considered the definition of social justice and how social justice thought is infiltrating our public school curricula. Many of our area districts are designing their curriculum to align with the major concepts or elements of social justice. We defined social justice as “A political and philosophical concept which holds that all people should have equal access to wealth, health, well-being, justice, and opportunity” (Investopedia).

While we must acknowledge the shortcomings and injustices in our history and move to correct those injustices, the social justice movement is a radical response to make drastic changes to the detriment of our culture. The movement to make these changes have been happening for some time. According to an article written by Bree Picower, we learned about the first element of the social justice curriculum in our last newsletter, “Self-love and Knowledge” (please see Volume XXVI, Issue 1). “Respect for Others,” “Issues of Social Injustice,” “Social Movements and Social Change,” “Awareness Raising” and “Social Action” round out the elements identified in Picower’s article (Picower, pp. 4-5).

Included in the topics of “Respect for Others” and “Issues of Social Injustice,” teachers, as models and examples for their students, provide their own stories regarding their cultural identities with their students. Students study different aspects of their identities and associated histories. Negative stereotypes about student identities are deconstructed. Students learn about the history of racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, religious intolerance, and how these things have oppressed and negatively affected cultures and our society today.

While on the surface, some of the topics described above are accurate, some are not. Rather than include God and the truth of His Word, absolute truth is completely denied and ignored. We are placing blame on a system of government that is the envy of the world, pointing the finger at institutions, political parties, and other entities. Instead of recognizing that the ills of our society are caused by man’s sin and his sinful choices, we simply will not take personal responsibility and admit our sin and make the necessary corrections. Of course, to make this correction means to acknowledge a need for a Savior. We are quick to play the blame game instead of taking responsibility for our actions and we are seeing the following results in culture today: a diminishing of authority, a disregard for our country, our freedoms, and a misunderstanding of nationalism, the creation of a victim mentality, more dissension among races, a

divisiveness with regard to the role of the man and woman, an entitlement mentality, less ability to cope and solve problems, a general lack of wisdom, and an unhealthy fear of saying anything or standing up for right without being chastised publicly. We are quickly moving to a censored society that will abandon its history and government, and that will continue to experience an erosion of freedoms all in the name of social justice. This is not the training we want for our children nor is it the way we want our children to think. We must come to grips with the fact that what is being presented today, more so than ever before, is completely contrary to what the Bible teaches.



In our Christian schools, we teach that God created all people, regardless of skin color or culture, and that every person is equal in the sight of God. Furthermore, God’s plan of salvation is available to every

person regardless of age, race, or culture. We are to prefer one another and seek to obey the mandate to “*love your neighbor as yourself*” (Gal. 5:14b). God is no respecter of persons, but we do teach that man has a moral responsibility before God to obey His mandates. We do not believe that the concept of diversity should include gay marriage or changing one’s gender. God created each person as they are – He made no mistakes. God not only knit me together in my mother’s womb (Psalm 139:13), but His plan for my life included responsibilities related to my gender. I am a man, husband, father, and ministry leader. If I am in God’s will, these are the very things He created me to be and do. Not only do I not have the right to question God’s choice of gender and role for my life, I certainly do not have a right to reject it. To do so would be the ultimate slap of God’s face. By rejecting my gender, I would be saying, “God you made a mistake with me!” In addition, if I reject God’s design for a marriage relationship, I am in direct disobedience to God’s Word regarding the sanctity of the marriage relationship (Gen. 2:18-25; Eph. 5:22-33). What I find interesting is that the Bible clearly teaches a respect for others and a mandate to love others, and yet those on the social justice side of things are so quick to criticize the religious right as a source of hate. Let it be

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known that we do not hate individuals whose lifestyles are contrary to the Word of God. We stand for the standard of God's Word which identifies right from wrong and will continue to hold to that standard in our churches and Christian schools. We will not shroud our agenda behind other societal ills, past or present.

As a result of the integration of social justice into secular curriculum, many parents continue to flee a system that is clearly without any moral compass. The lines are so clearly being drawn that the Christian family is faced with a dilemma and a choice to make: Will we continue to allow our children to be taught a worldview that is contrary to our family's belief?

Christian schools began out of conviction in the late 60's and early 70's when prayer and Bible were removed from public education. Schools were started by the thousands because people believed that without the fear of the Lord, there was no wisdom; and without knowledge of the Holy One, there was no understanding (Proverbs 9:10). Our school still holds firmly to this belief and we still base all that we do on the truth of the Word of God.

What happens to a society that once held dear the beliefs of God's Word and included those truths as the foundation of all learning but has now totally removed them from their educational system?



Before our very eyes we see our culture crumbling. There is a generational divide and decline, a divide and decline in morality, and a definite decline in church attendance nationally. The battle

for the moral heart and soul of America is on. How will the Christian respond?

I do know how I will respond. I will respond by working tirelessly for the cause of Christian education. We must continue to build and make our Christian schools strong and continue to improve our programs so we can have the best schools possible. I call on our families to pray and support our mission and purpose. I call on our families to daily pray for each of your child's teachers. I call on our families to be faithful in your walk with the Lord and in the raising of your children. Please make sure, dads, you are taking your children to church and they are seeing a man who loves God, his wife, and who leads his family. The role of the husband and wife is so distorted in our culture today that if we, as men, don't show the proper, biblical role, I am afraid our sons and daughters will never learn what God's purpose is for their life. Continue to share the news of our school with others who might want to consider it for their children. And... pray for our country, our leaders, and particularly our pastors. Our pastors need a hedge of protection around them and their families. We pray that our pastors will be outspoken, bold, and convicting in their teaching, preaching, and leadership. We

must all be bold to influence those around us for the cause of Christ.

The chief focus of our influence must be the next generation whom God has entrusted to us. Parents, we must diligently work together to this end. The Home is God's #1 providentially-placed, priority learning institution; the Church is the place of spiritual impact of the training of parents; and the School – #3 on the list, is the institution whose proper position is to be an extension and support for the church and the home. If all three are in place, stable, and working in harmony with one another, complementing one another, we will see success in the education of our children. Satan will not be able to thwart it. The public school cannot replace it. Social justice cannot defeat it.

We must be faithful to our God, be consistent in our walk with Christ, and be steadfast in the work of the Lord. We must remain immovable when it comes to our convictions regarding Christian education.

A solid educational system, based on absolute truth, will impact the next generation for Christ. ~ Mr. Alan J. Hodak

Definition of social justice - <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/s/social-justice.asp>

Hodak, Alan. "The Messenger." Dec., 2018.

Picower, Bree. "Using Their Words: Six Elements of Social Justice Curriculum Design for the Elementary Classroom." *International Journal of Multicultural Education*, vol. 14, No. 1, 2012.

## 2018 Fire Poster Contest Winner is Faith Zhao



The Plymouth Fire Department held its annual Poster Contest, and this year's theme was, *Look, Listen, Learn ... Fire Can Happen Anywhere*. Faith Zhao was chosen as this year's winner, and she received a \$15 check that was presented to her in person by members of the Plymouth Fire Department. Congratulations, Faith!





# HERITAGE DAY!

Heritage Day is a chance for our elementary students to research a character or a symbol from American History, dress up, and give a short speech about the importance of their chosen character or symbol. The students do a fantastic job with their costumes and presentations, and judging is always very difficult!

The 6th graders do their research and create Power Point presentations to air in-between the costume presentations.

## Kindergarten:

Thomas Moywaywa—1st  
Abiyah Gedz—2nd  
Belinda Aleckson—3rd

## 2nd Grade—A:

Mark Damyan—1st  
Tiegan Treptau—2nd  
Anna Yarmakovich—3rd

## 4th Grade:

Nikita Lipinskiy—1st  
Gracyn Lopez—2nd  
Adelaisa Pullis—3rd

## 1st Grade—A:

Jacob Demchenko—1st  
Elise Pacencu—2nd  
Zeke Leanger—3rd

## 2nd Grade—B:

Preston Smetak—1st  
Lincoln Johnson—2nd  
Isaac Gao—3rd

## 5th Grade:

Anatasia Lipinskiy—1st  
Anja Brombacher—2nd  
Ben Jahnke—3rd

## 1st Grade—B:

Mason Kimbrough—1st  
Katelyn Kolwinska—2nd  
Madelyn Jahnke—3rd

## 3rd Grade:

Michaela Keim—1st  
Rebeka Damyan &  
Anna Damyan—2nd (tie)  
Tim Petrashov—3rd





# Elementary 2nd Semester Field Trips

## Third Grade Visits the Minnesota ZOO!

The third grade has been studying animals in science. We got to go on an exciting trip to the MN Zoo! We had fun touching the sting rays and sharks at Discovery Bay and observing eels and other amazing sea creatures. Watching the bird show was also very entertaining. We got to see Coconut perform his imitations, a snowy owl, a bald eagle, and many other fascinating birds. They flew right over our heads. We also enjoyed the Minnesota Trail, where we got to see wolves, coyote, bats, and a beaver. We ended our day with a special back stage tour. We visited the kitchen where zookeepers prepare the meals for the animals. We also saw the baby tapir. It was a great field trip! —Mrs. Faithfull, 3rd Grade Teacher



## 1st Grade Visits Chick-fil-A to See a Business in Action

The first grade classes visited Chick-fil-A in Maple Grove last week and learned all about running a restaurant business. The students toured the kitchen. They especially enjoyed seeing the soda pop machine, the big garbage compactor, and the drive through. The staff also prepared activities for the students and treated them like special guests. They even gave everyone a free chicken biscuit to enjoy! Thank you, Chick-fil-A, for showing our first graders such a great time! —Mrs. Pickard, 1st Grade Teacher







## Fourth & Fifth Grades Visit The Works Museum

The fourth and fifth grade classes were able to go on an exciting field trip to The Works Museum. The students were able to experiment with simple machines, structures, shapes and sensors. Many of the students enjoyed building their own race cars, which they raced against each other. They also enjoyed working together to build a fortress out of foam blocks.

The students were also able to do a hands-on workshop where they learned that a circuit must have a power supply. They also learned that a simple motor needs a wire, a source of electricity, and a magnet to move the wire. In the end the students were able to construct their own circuit with a battery-powered motor. This motor was attached to a crazy "wigglerobot" that they were later able to take home.

—Mrs. Leith, 5th Grade Teacher





## Zoomobile visits FBCS

The MN Zoomobile came to visit our K4—2nd grades. The children were able to see a red-tailed hawk, an opossum, a millipede and a large ball python up close. The students sat in rapt attention as the zookeeper showed the animals and described their features, diet and habitat. Thank you, Minnesota Zoo! We really enjoyed the Zoomobile visit! —K4-2nd Grade Teachers



## Sixth Grade to Gibbs Farm

In November, the sixth grade class enjoyed an opportunity to visit Gibbs Farm. They heard the story of Jane Gibbs, a Minnesota pioneer who spent some time living with the Dakota Indians. They saw farm animals, went inside an old schoolhouse, visited a tipi, and even got to make their own beeswax candles. The 6th graders have been learning about the early days of Minnesota's statehood so it was exciting to see artifacts and replicas from that time period.

—Miss Haynes, 6th Grade Teacher





## Elementary Students Bringing Smiles to Residents at The Waters

Each month, one class goes over to The Waters of Plymouth, a senior living community next door to our school, and provides a music program for the residents. In January, the sixth graders took their turn.

Some of the band students prepared instrumental small group songs. Other students prepared songs to sing or play on the piano. The class as a whole preformed a couple of choir numbers. One smaller group of students was able to sing a song they had learned for *Let the Children Praise*.

When we went to The Waters, the students were excited to meet the residents and perform their songs. They had time to talk with the residents before and after the program.

Going to The Waters allowed the students to experience ministry for themselves. They spent time preparing songs and then presented those songs for the glory of God. They also got to speak with the residents and show them the love of Christ. Many residents recognized some of the hymns we sang, and that was neat to see. It was a great opportunity for them to use their God-given talents and abilities to minister to others.

—Miss Haynes, 6th Grade Teacher



## FBCS Hosts the MACS Band Festival in November

The MACS Band Festival was hosted by Fourth Baptist on November 2, 2018. Our guest conductor was Mrs. Joni Sutton. The students learned much from her teaching and enjoyed getting to know her throughout the day. The students worked together in four rehearsals throughout the day on four band songs that were chosen by our conductor. The repertoire was as follows: *Joyance* by Bruce Pearson, *A Childhood Hymn* by David Holsinger, *Juno Beach* by John Edmondson, and *Moscow 1941* by Brian Balmages. The students especially enjoyed *Moscow 1941* because of its depiction of the battle between Russian and German forces complete with the sounds of large artillery in the brass and percussion sections. Students also spent time in sectionals with professional musicians from the local area and learned new concepts to apply to the playing of their instrument. The percussionists had an extended sectional time and worked on a percussion ensemble song called *Buckethead* that was played on 5-gallon buckets! I know that song was a big hit with the students – no pun intended ☺. From my perspective as a director, I know that my students gained much knowledge and experience from this festival and



I am grateful to our conductor, masterclass clinicians, school directors and students for helping to make this day a success!

—Mr. Levi Kolwinska, FBCS Music Director





# “Christmas in Minnesota” Concert 2018

*Christmas in Minnesota* was the theme of our all-school Christmas concert on December 7. Our concert songs were connected to Minnesota’s cultural heritage or were written by Minnesota composers. Some highlights of the concert included the following: JH Band playing songs from *Charlie Brown*; SH Choir singing in Swedish with the room darkened and candles glowing; humorous readings about MN Christmas traditions or winter traditions; Platinum Bells playing a song while Sven and Ole were ice fishing on Lake Mille Lacs; and the combined 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

grade choirs and SH Band performing a song called *On with the Snow*. After the concert, we enjoyed a cookie reception complete with MN state shaped cookies and MN themed décor. It was fun to learn more about our Minnesota heritage through our concert theme this year. Thanks to the almost 900 people that attended the concert! We are thankful for the hard work of each student and the support of our parents and the FBCC staff. —Mr. Levi Kolwinka, FBCC Music Director









## Senior Family Fun Night!

On Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, Seniors worked together to put on a great night for our FBCS families. We had over 250 in attendance that night! Morgan Stephens ran a Christmas-themed photo booth, and students had fun posing with the different hat and frame props. Micah Morrell led the elementary students in a rambunctious round of Duck, Duck, Grey Duck before the main events.

Big-ball volleyball was played for the large group competitions. In an exciting round of seniors vs. parents....parents won! There were also a few rounds of dodgeball.

Over \$800 was raised from pie-in-the face tickets alone! A highlight was Anne Cooley getting to pie her older brother in the face; we know she thoroughly enjoyed that one! The Seniors greatly appreciated the number that came out to support them in raising money for their class trip to Washington D.C. and The Wilds of North Carolina.

—Mrs. Kristen Mulnix, Senior Class Advisor





2nd QUARTER 2018-19	"A" HONOR ROLL	A AVERAGE	B AVERAGE
First	Madelynn Jahnke Mason Kimbrough Allison Kovalchuk Alexis LaVasseur Bryna McLeish Arima Okafo Elise Pacencu Naomi Pacencu Viviana Pullis	Elias Brombacher Liesl Campbell Daniella Damyan Jacob Demchenko Chloe Johnson Katelyn Kolwinska Ezekiel Leanger Katherine Malone Alessandra Mendoza-Tamayo Pierce Ogbourne Autumn Overcash Ella Petrashov Matthias Smith	David Caasi Catherine Carl Ison Eppers Olivia Malone Alexander Tkach
Second	Vita Belokon Mark Damyan Dima Brutskiy Rilyn Faithfull Sarah Goshgarian Lincoln Johnson Jeremiah Komonash Alexandra Lipinskiy Clara Morrell Sean Okafo Tiegan Treptau Preston Smetak Anna Yarmakovich	Henry Baranyuk Jill Cook Ziqian (Isaac) Gao Hannah Grosser Robert Heldman Nathan Kauffman Rosalee Lesnau Carson Payne Marie Reis Samuel Tollerud	Isabelle Chuprin Rebekah Landin Allison Leanger Nelson Mendez-Roman Ella Sayko
Third	Nikita Bodnar Isabella Carl Anna Damyan Ava Fure Christian Hoffman Michaela Keim Ann Moywaywa Timothy Petrashov Lauren Stephens Lukyn Williams	Ella Burlak Isaiah Caasi Anne Cooley Rebeka Damyan Christian Kolwinska	Lily Goshgarian Peyton Grosser Emma Overcash
Fourth	Josiah Combs John Goshgarian Nikita Lipinskiy Joseph Litkey Gracyn Lopez Savannah Martin Adelaisa Pullis	Gretchen Campbell Ethan Coulson Westley Malone Brianna Treptau	Njomai Gorre Ndiaye Mark Manoila Jacob Payne Caleb Reis Noah Sherfey Asher Zderchuk
Fifth	Benjamin Jahnke McKenzie Johnson Anastasia Lipinskiy Easton Martin Tava McLeish Peter Moywaywa J. Jaidyn Rennie Josiah Tollerud Lillian Williams Faith Zhao	Anja Brombacher Matthew Gorian Ethan Markgraf Charles Okafo Megan Page Tyler Stephens	Gregory Carl Boston Faithfull Joseph Goshgarian Hannah Reis Jinwen (Jane) Qin Grace Zhao



2nd QUARTER 2018-19	"A" HONOR ROLL	A AVERAGE	B AVERAGE
Sixth	Molly Cook Jamie Hoese Noah Lease Nelly Petrashov	Julia Bodnar Cole Chenoweth Jack Fure Evan Harvath Lauren Knudson Jonathan Kolacz Sophia Morrell Jude Olson Carmela Pullis Joseph Sundberg Allison Tkach Daniel Yarmakovich	Markus Baranyuk Lexi Owens
Seventh	Josiah Brombacher Nathan French Joy Okafo Sophia Pullis Clara Rieschl Johannah Rieschl	Jacob Combs Mark Goshgarian Melissa Kauffman Shaun Larson Reece Martin S. Gresyn Rennie Alyssa Stephens	Isaac Caasi Emily Chuprin Logan Dunn Sophia Engleberth Grace Goshgarian Matthew Herrick Henry Litkey Carsten Markgraf Isaiah Roman Evelina Sayko Cherubim Toby
Eighth	Karina Mendoza Adriel Ng	Suzanna Kotelevska Abbie Page Caleb Tollerud Evelyn Williams	Jemima Komonash Aidan J. Radloff
Ninth	Emily Combs Isabel Guillen Tyler Martin Gabriela Mendoza Anna Morrell	Isaac Brombacher Samuel Caasi Jasmine Cole Stephen French Evelyn Goshgarian Kathryn Kauffman Ruvim Korovin Joseph Okafo Kayla Stephens James Webster David Yarmakovich	Roman Bodnar Jocelyn Devanesan Alyza Dunn Lucy Litkey Samuel Roman
Tenth	Kaylee Hoffman Zachary Mace Lydia Rieschl	Kaylee Carlson Jonathan Grosser Madelyn Hodak Isabelle Lease	Trinity Gorian Jiaqi (Iris) He Caleb Lambrecht Jordan Larson Yinghui (Daisy) Li Sophie Muhr Levi Owens Emmalee Tollerud Liangyu Zeng
Eleventh	Aaron French Caleb Page	Luiz Bomfim Isaac Grosser Breanna Leith Juliana Mendoza Lydia Morrell Joshua Van Luyk Micah Weckert	Nathan Brennan Yuanxin (Winston) Chen Dana Fredericksen Benjamin Goshgarian Amanda Hartzell Jiamiao (Lucas) Liu Abigail Roman Joelle Webster
Twelfth	Nicholas Carlson Zixi (Elaine) Feng Abigail Kolacz	Mark Cooley Wan Lu (Summer) Feng Abigail Goshgarian Joel Larson Claire Peterson Morgan Stephens	David Groulx Stanley Luckett Micah Morrell