

Heritas Classical Academy

News – July 2004

Student Enrollment for 2004-2005

VCA will continue accepting applications for grades K-6 until **Friday, August 6**. The enrollment fee is \$200. If you are still considering enrolling your child or have any questions about enrollment, please contact Rebecca Wedel at 850-5309.

Prayer Requests

With the start of the fall semester approaching, we would ask that you pray for the Board, teachers, and other staff as they prepare to open the school on Tuesday, August 24th.

We are still in need of various office equipment and supplies including: a computer, printer table, storage cabinets, chairs and tables for one classroom, and general office and teacher supplies (pens, paper, pencils, paperclips, staplers, grade ledgers, pencil sharpeners, etc.)

If you know where we can get high-quality office equipment or supplies at low prices (better yet, free), please let us know as soon as possible.

Praise God!

A Canon Laser 9500 Printer/Fax machine was donated to our office last month. We are very grateful for this gift as it fills a big need.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

Once school starts, there will be several ways in which parents can be involved during the school day. To provide our teachers with an adequate lunch break, parent volunteers are needed to assist and monitor students during lunch and recess. Grades K-3 will go to lunch and recess

between 11:00-12:00, and grades 4-6 will go between 12:00-1:00. Rebecca will also need help in the school office at different times during the day. If you are interested in volunteering on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays, please contact Rebecca.

Friday Classes

Our Third Day (Friday) Classes are coming together, and we are excited about the range of courses we will be offering. This list, as well as course descriptions and registration information, will be on our website by the beginning of August.

- Music (PreK- Kinder)
- Art (grades K-2)
- Music (grades 1-3)
- Life Science (grades 1-3)
- Latin 1 (grades 3-5)
- Introduction to Spanish (grades 3-5)
- Life Science (grades 4-6)
- Art (grades 3-6)
- Latin 1 (grades 6-8)
- Introduction to Logic (grades 6-8)
- Physical Science (grades 7-8)
- Reading and Writing about Classical Rhetoric 1 (grades 9-12)

In addition to these courses, a Latin class for adults will be offered by Sandy Dolan on Saturday mornings. Go to our website for more information.

Getting to Know Your Teachers and Staff

Kara Polk will be teaching kindergarten this year. Kara has an extensive background working with preschool and elementary

students. She is the Child Care Director at Trinity Baptist Church, and among many other responsibilities, she led over 500 children this summer in Trinity's Vacation Bible School. She is married to Ryan Polk, Youth and College Director at Trinity. Kara is full of energy and enthusiasm, and we are so pleased to have her on our staff.

Sherry McDonald brings over 25 years of teaching experience to her position as the new first grade teacher. She loves teaching first grade, and her favorite subject is reading. Having worked in both public and private schools, she brings a tremendous amount of practical experience to the vision and philosophy of Veritas. Sherry is married to Richard, a wedding photographer, and has three grown boys.

Important Dates

August 6: Last day to enroll for Fall 2004 semester

August 4-6: Teacher training at Coram Deo Academy, Dallas, TX

August 14 and 17: Parent Orientation sessions

August 24: First Day of School!

Why Work? (Part 2), by Curt Stafford

It is often said that the great benefit of being saved is that we get to go to heaven. This is indeed a blessed benefit, but God does not ordinarily take us to heaven when we first believe. Why not? Well, part of the reason is that He has work for us to do. But now the blessing is that we are increasingly restored to the true meaning and significance of our work to and for God. God came to restore to men and women the ability to labor for Him in His glorious kingdom. The Apostle Peter calls God's people "a *royal priesthood*" in I Pet 2:9 (See also Ex 19:6). We are royal because we are adopted children of the King, to whom all authority on Earth is now given (Mat 28:18), but how are we a nation of priests, and what does this have to do with our work?

In some Christian traditions the priesthood of the believer is given significance only in reference to work in the Church. Some of us can admit members to the community of God's children or exercise discipline by excommunicating them. Some can also minister ordinances of Baptism and Communion. But what if we are not called

as a Church Officer? Can we still act as a priest for God? In response to the then Roman Catholic doctrine that only those who wholly devote themselves to God in the "ministry" by renouncing all so-called "worldly pursuits" and entering the monasteries of the sixteenth century, the leaders of the Reformation developed the doctrine of the priesthood of all believers.

Simply stated, this doctrine taught that all God's children can mediate or minister God's grace in the world through their various callings or vocations. Our vocation or ministry involves the gospel in that it restores to the world that which was lost to the fall: the meaning of work. We are restored to the original work that Adam was called to do, tend our little corner of the earth. Any and all work that is not inconsistent with God's word is used by God through the Christian to help restore the earth and mankind to its rightful place of glorifying God and enjoying Him forever.

Because of the fall, our labor is often frustrating and difficult. This should not surprise us, but God will not permit us to be discouraged or complacent because our Elder Brother, Jesus, labors with us! Remember the Great Commission? It starts with "*All authority* has been given to Me in heaven *and* on earth." So what? He reminds us that our work here is in light of the fact that He already has authority over all the earth. He worked and still works, graciously making our labor productive and fruitful.

Why work? We work because God works and has declared His work as good. We work because He commands us to work in any and all lawful activities and vocations. We work to mediate the grace of God in a fallen world. We work because He has all authority and has insured that our work will be fruitful when we faithfully obey. We work to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. All man-centered reasons are ultimately exposed for what they are, self-centered and sinful. To God alone be the glory! Amen.