



Course Descriptions and
Teacher Information
2023-2024

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Courses are arranged in alphabetical order under each course category

Art

Art in Nature

Teacher: Michelle Bentzen

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$60
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	30 mins.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

God is the ultimate designer, and we are His masterpiece. Together, we will bloom where we are planted this year in Art in Nature. Using nature to inspire our projects, we will gaze at the stars, examine plants, log the weather, watch beautiful clouds, listen to birds, discover all kinds of critters, and smell the flowers.

While observing God's creation, the students will focus on the basic artistic elements of line, shape, color, form, space, texture, and value. Your young naturalist will learn how to closely zoom-in and examine those elements as we wildly explore our world together. Our projects will incorporate natural materials while also using mediums such as watercolors, color pencils, graphite pencils, charcoals, chalk, oil pastels, ink, paint, etc.

As for homework, students will be encouraged to take nature walks with their family and collect treasures to share with the class. Picking a sit-spot to quietly listen and observe outside is key to nature journaling. Don't forget to doodle along the way!

Our materials fee will cover all the art and craft supplies needed to complete weekly projects, as well as a small sketchbook.

Lastly, students will exhibit a few of their pieces in an end-of-year Art Show.

“For we are God’s masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

~Ephesians 2:10

Art

Art Through the Centuries

Teacher: Sunny Gritsko

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$55
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	none
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-6
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Art Through the Centuries is a multi-media art class using the world's great artists as inspiration. The class will "meet" an artist at the beginning of most sessions by looking at a famous work. They will use new art vocabulary to discuss the piece. The rest of the class period will be spent on a project building on the artist's technique, style, medium, or subject matter.

The students will be getting a good general overview of art history as well as experiencing a variety of art methods such as: painting, sculpture, printmaking, and more. Basic drawing principles will be covered using the five shape families and the seven secrets of perspective, as well as tips on portraits and figure drawing.

Materials fee will cover all supplies.

Fifth and Sixth-graders may take this class for two years (A, B) as different projects/lessons are offered each year.

Plan to display your favorite pieces at the ACTS end-of-the-year art and talent show in May!

Art

Ceramics I

Teacher: Robin Rakow

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$120</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>minimal</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>4/18</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>N/A</i>

Explore basic clay hand-building techniques to form vessels and sculptures. Students will be encouraged to show their unique style and interests in their pieces. Emphasis will be placed on design as well as hand-building techniques: pinch, coil, and slab. Projects will be fired in a kiln twice with painting/glazing between.

Materials fee covers clay tools, supplies, clay, firing costs, and glazes.

Ceramics II

Teacher: Robin Rakow

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$150</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>minimal</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>4/18</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>N/A</i>

Students will continue with basic clay hand-building and will complete more advanced projects using these techniques. Students will work on planning and sketching projects that are assigned, and we will also incorporate student choice projects, as well. This course is for students who have a solid understanding of all hand building techniques. Peer critiques will be offered for pieces. Projects will be fired in a kiln twice with painting/glazing between.

Materials fee covers clay, firing costs, and glazes.

Art

Basic Drawing (online)

Teacher: Mr. Thomas Marsh

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$0
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Basic Drawing (online) will focus on drawing as an artistic skill, a foundation for creating works of art. The approach is classical, honoring such enduring aesthetic values as beauty, form, harmony, and proportion. Many examples from art history will be used to illustrate these concepts.

Initially, with the traditional basic drawing materials of charcoal and pencil, and using simple geometric forms as subject matter; the drawing principles of proportion, perspective, light and shadow, and composition will be studied and developed. Color will be introduced in projects using colored pencils. As the academic year progresses, projects will grow in complexity, starting with still lifes, perspective drawing, drapery studies, and then basic human figure proportions, leading up to the major project of illustrating a Biblical scene or verse. The class will conclude with two portrait projects.

The educational emphasis will be on artistic discipline (hard work and practice), and individual improvement in drawing skills. Students are not graded in relation to other students; rather, they are guided to grow significantly beyond their initial skill levels which are brought to the class.

Required Materials (to be provided by the student):

- 18" x 24" drawing pad (drawing paper, not newsprint)
- Drawing board with clips (or an equivalent rigid board) to hold the 18" x 24" pad
- Kneaded eraser
- 1 package of medium vine charcoal (several sticks)
- 1 black 2B Conte Crayon
- 1 medium charcoal pencil
- Soft graphite pencil (Ebony or graphite stick)
- 1 #2 traditional graphite pencil
- 4 Prismacolor (or equivalent) colored pencils: red, blue, yellow, and black.
- Sketchbook (approx. 9" x 12")

Materials can be purchased at Michaels in the Barracks Road Shopping Center. Depending on the student's output, additional materials may need to be purchased before the end of the academic year.

Art

Painting: Acrylic

Teacher: Sarah Otis

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 hr.+</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>7/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Students will explore acrylic painting and learn new skills. Acrylics are an incredibly versatile medium. They are water-based but dry to a waterproof finish. Using Acrylics, students will study various subject matter such as still life, landscapes, figure and abstract painting. They will continue to develop skills in color composition, and painting techniques. We will explore the process and develop individual artistic expression.

Supply list:

Acrylic paint

Watercolor paper

Variety of brushes

Palette

Water container

Pencil and eraser

Art

Painting: Watercolor

Teacher: Sarah Otis

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 hr. +</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>7/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Watercolor is a foundational painting skills class. Students should have some background in basic drawing skills before taking this class. Students will learn classical and contemporary watercolor painting techniques, wet on wet, dry on wet, resist techniques, and brush skills. The class will spend time exploring color theory and color interaction as it applies to watercolor. Students will quickly be able to create fully finished paintings with a variety of subject matter.

Supply list:

Watercolor paper (Block or pad)

Variety of brushes

Watercolor paints (tube or pan)

Palette

Water container

Pencil and eraser

Art

Start with Art

Teacher: Emily Reiner

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	none
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

If your child is ready to jump into art and express their creativity this is a great place to start. A student may take this class for three years, as different projects/lessons are offered each year. Most sessions begin with an introduction to an art principle, artistic style, or featured artist. Artists then combine the mini lesson with their own ideas to create unique works of art.

Start with Art students will have the opportunity to do the following learning activities:

- experience a variety of media including acrylic, watercolor, soft pastel, oil pastel, marker, pen/pencil, textiles, tile, recyclables, metal, plaster, clay, and natural materials
- try various art processes such as drawing, painting, sculpture, modeling, weaving, basic stitchery, printmaking, collage, papier-mâché, mosaic, engraving, and carving
- incorporate art elements of line, color, shape, form, value, space, and texture
- explore design principles of balance, proportion, contrast, variety, emphasis, unity, rhythm, and pattern; and appreciate the art of famous artists and various cultural groups.

*The \$50 materials fee covers all art materials, craft supplies, utensils, smocks, sketch folders, and teaching aids.

** No minimum age exceptions permitted. Please note that young artists need to be developmentally ready to separate from parents and participate in 30 minutes of moderately focused work.

Drama

All the World's a Stage

Teacher: Jennifer P. Merriman

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hr
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	1-5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

All the World's a Stage - Elementary Drama

Were you born to perform? Do you have an idea that must be heard? If you are in 1st-5th grade then this is the course for you! The skill sets learned in a drama course are universally valuable for effective in person communication whether on stage or off.

The course goals are:

- Bond as a group by establishing rules and creating trust
- Develop focus and listening skills
- Learn how relaxation, breath work, and warm-ups help prepare an actor for performance
- Practice vocal projection
- Use physical movement to portray characters
- Use sensory awareness and imagination to portray characters and environment
- Convey story through imagination, movement, and vocalization
- Learn the basics of stage direction and terminology
- Perform in front of an audience

Each class will follow the format below:

- Opening ritual - Activity that brings structure to the creative environment
- Physical warm -up
- Vocal warm-up
- Skill building activity
- Performance activity
- Discussion
- Closing activity

Drama

Drama 6-12th Grade

Teacher: Autumn

Temple

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$7.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	Memorizing lines when preparing for performance
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/22
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Drama students will engage in theater sharpening skills through fun and inspiring improvisational style games during class time. We will build skills and prepare for the stage as we prepare to perform in December and May at ACTS events. All students taking this course will be expected to memorize lines and perform. The nature of our performance will be to utilize Drama as a ministry tool. Through creative, meaningful, fun skits we will teach a gospel inspired message from the stage. I enjoy encouraging students to use their creativity to write dramas and foster a desire for drama ministry beyond our co-op!

Drama

Shakespeare for Middle Schoolers

Teacher: Jen Merriman

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>5-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

In this introductory course, we will cover ONE Shakespeare play per year. The goal is to give the students a taste of his genius so they want more. In 2023/2024 the featured work is The Tempest.

We will study the play through:

- Viewing animated adaptations and film adaptations
- Reading adaptations with picture books and/or graphic novels
- Listening to the play (original text) dramatized on audio while following along in the Folger's Shakespeare Library
- Illustrate and analyze text
- Perform an abridged version of the play

Texts:

Shakespeare's Stories for Young Readers (Dover Children's Classics) Paperback – March 3, 2006

The Tempest (Folger Shakespeare Library) Mass Market Paperback – July 1, 2004

The Tempest The Graphic Novel (American English, Original Text) by John McDonald, William Shakespeare, et al. | Nov 24, 2009

Electives

American Girls Rock

Teacher: Miriam Nissley

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$60
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 to 2 hours
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-7
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class will focus on the historical American Girl dolls. Unit studies may include reading, writing, art, sewing, crafts, etc. pertaining to the time period of each doll selected. There may be some homework and optional (ex. cooking) assignments to do at home. Girls do not have to own an American Girl doll to participate in the class.

Time period of historical dolls to be studied for 2023-2024:

1774 – Felicity/Elizabeth

1824 – Josephina

1914 – Rebecca

1934 – Kit/Ruthie

Booklist:

Unit 1

Love and Loyalty - Felicity Classic 1

A Stand for Independence - Felicity Classic 2

Real Stories From My Time: Boston Tea Party Scholastic AG Book

Unit 2

Sunlight & Shadows – Josephina Classic 1

Second Chances – Josephina Classic 2

Unit 3

The Sound of Applause – Rebecca Classic 1

Lights, Camera, Rebecca – Rebecca Classic 2

Unit 4

Read All About It! – Kit Classic 1

Turning Things Around – Kit Classic 2

Really Truly Ruthie

Note on books: We will be covering the whole series of each doll. The books listed above are from the BeForever Series. Reading will be assigned for the unabridged versions. Books for retired dolls can be found used or at the library usually in the “Central Series” format. Contact Mrs. Nissley for alternate titles. The Scholastic book can be ordered online.

Optional: Avid readers may want to read mysteries and/or my journey books for each doll.

Material fees cover copying costs for handouts, teaching aids, and most of the art & crafting supplies.

Supplies needed:

1 to 1 ½ inch three ring binder with four dividers

TBA (most likely things found around the home)

Electives

Biblical Hermeneutics

Teacher: Dale Fields

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hour/week
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In his book, *The Knowledge of the Holy*, A.W. Tozer well said, “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” Tozer was suggesting that the way we live is primarily determined by what we think about God, his Word, and his world. With that in mind, this course, Biblical Hermeneutics, is being offered to provide the student with the necessary framework for interpreting the Bible accurately, that the student might accurately understand the God of the Bible. This course is designed to help students who want to learn how to read, interpret, and apply the Bible for themselves. In Hermeneutics, students will learn the key tools of Bible interpretation, seeking to understand the historical, literary, and theological contexts of each genre of literature in the Bible. Furthermore, this class aims to help the student interpret the Scriptures with a goal of discovering real-life application for growth in spiritual maturity.

Textbook: *ESV Study Bible* (Crossway Publishing, Wheaton, IL: 2008)

Electives

Boys Destination Imagination:

5th grade

Teacher: Lindsay Sauer

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	0-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/7
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	No

Destination Imagination is a global organization that facilitates a creativity competition each year (learn more at www.DIVirginia.org or DestinationImagination.org). For the Team Challenge experience, a small team (max of 7 students) develops a solution to a project-based, STEAM challenge. Team Challenges are available each year in the following categories: Technical, Scientific, Fine Arts, Improvisational, Engineering, and Service Learning. Although each Team Challenge has a specific educational focus, they each also incorporate elements to make them multi-disciplinary and cross-curricular (i.e., the Fine Arts Challenge will have a technical element and the Engineering Challenge will have an artistic or storytelling component.)

Students in this course will be a part of one team who decide together what team challenge they will work to creatively solve throughout the course. They will work throughout the year to develop their solution and present it live at the Virginia state tournament in March 2024. Teams are responsible for designing and creating 100% of their Team Challenge solution. Absolutely no interference from non-team members (no research, idea, or solution from family, friends, etc.) is allowed- this is a critical component so the team can take full ownership of their solution! The teacher (i.e., Team Manager) for this course, guides the creative process and helps keep the team on track, but is not allowed to interfere with the team's solution.

Another part of the course will be practicing and completing Instant Challenges. Instant Challenges are quick, creative and critical-thinking exercises that build teamwork and reinforce problem-solving skills like rapid ideation and implementation. Instant Challenges can be task-based, performance-based, or a combination of both. The team will practice Instant Challenges each week during the year and are given one at the tournament in March.

Both the Team Challenge and Instant Challenge components teach and develop the creative process. The team members will grow in their problem solving, critical thinking, communication, teamwork, presentation skills, perseverance and more. It is a really fun way to learn together!

This course will require a commitment to attend the Virginia state tournament in March 2024. Each team will also need to provide two adult volunteers for the tournament (the Team Manager cannot count as one of the volunteers). There may also be optional team meetings outside of ACTS, at an alternate location, as tournament time approaches (February/ March 2024) if the team feels they need more time to prepare and practice. Homework will vary throughout the course duration depending on what the team needs to do for their solution and how they choose to delegate the responsibilities.

**While this course is offered as an ACTS class, ACTS cannot sponsor or be responsible for competitions, transportation, etc. for this class. The materials fee will cover the upfront cost to register the team with Destination Imagination, a rulebook for the specific Team Challenge chosen by the team and supplies I will bring for them to utilize in class (paper, markers, scissors, tape, etc.). The course tuition will cover additional expenses related to the Team and Instant Challenges and Virginia state tournament. Families are responsible for transportation to the tournament or any additional team meetings happening outside of ACTS without any liability falling on ACTS. There are no textbooks or additional materials required.

Electives

Boys Destination Imagination:
Middle School
Teacher: Lindsay Sauer

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/7
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	No

Destination Imagination is a global organization that facilitates a creativity competition each year (learn more at www.DIVirginia.org or DestinationImagination.org). For the Team Challenge experience, a small team (max of 7 students) develops a solution to a project-based, STEAM challenge. Team Challenges are available each year in the following categories: Technical, Scientific, Fine Arts, Improvisational, Engineering, and Service Learning. Although each Team Challenge has a specific educational focus, they each also incorporate elements to make them multi-disciplinary and cross-curricular (i.e., the Fine Arts Challenge will have a technical element and the Engineering Challenge will have an artistic or storytelling component.)

Students in this course will be a part of one team who decide together what team challenge they will work to creatively solve throughout the course. They will work throughout the year to develop their solution and present it live at the Virginia state tournament in March 2024. Teams are responsible for designing and creating 100% of their Team Challenge solution. Absolutely no interference from non-team members (no research, idea, or solution from family, friends, etc.) is allowed- this is a critical component so the team can take full ownership of their solution! The teacher (i.e., Team Manager) for this course, guides the creative process and helps keep the team on track, but is not allowed to interfere with the team's solution. Another part of the course will be practicing and completing Instant Challenges. Instant Challenges are quick, creative and critical-thinking exercises that build teamwork and reinforce problem-solving skills like rapid ideation and implementation. Instant Challenges can be task-based, performance-based, or a combination of both. The team will practice Instant Challenges each week during the year and are given one at the tournament in March.

Both the Team Challenge and Instant Challenge components teach and develop the creative process. The team members will grow in their problem solving, critical thinking, communication, teamwork, presentation skills, perseverance and more. It is a really fun way to learn together!

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While this course is offered as an ACTS class, ACTS cannot sponsor or be responsible for competitions, transportation, etc. for this class. The materials fee will cover the upfront cost to register the team with Destination Imagination, a rulebook for the specific Team Challenge chosen by the team and supplies I will bring for them to utilize in class (paper, markers, scissors, tape, etc.). The course tuition will cover additional expenses related to the Team and Instant Challenges and Virginia state tournament. Families are responsible for transportation to the tournament or any additional team meetings happening outside of ACTS without any liability falling on ACTS. There are no textbooks or additional materials required.

Electives

Business & Entrepreneurship 101

Teacher: Renata Miller

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$315</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>4 hrs max</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/inst. approv</i>

As the Bible reminds us in 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV), “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others.” As individuals we are all gifted, we all have talent, and learning to foster our talent to serve others will not only bless us but the whole community we serve.

Students will learn the value of creating a business, being an entrepreneur, and how to transform an idea into a business. This class will be a road trip to becoming an entrepreneur.

First Semester: Students will learn in groups. Each group will brainstorm business ideas, create a business plan, develop their product or service line, create labels and packaging, and design a market strategy and price. The student will then have the option to offer their product during an ACTS Market at the end of the year.

Second Semester: During the second part of our class, students will work on their own business ideas, create a business plan, develop their product or service, design their business logo, create labels, packaging if necessary, and market strategy for their business.

Electives

Christian Theology

Teacher: Dale Fields

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hour/week
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In his book, *The Knowledge of the Holy*, A.W. Tozer well said, “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” Tozer was suggesting that what a person knows and believes about God is vitally important as it will direct the spiritual course of his or her life. This is why studying theology is of paramount importance! This course, Christian Theology, aims to help students deepen their knowledge of God, understand key doctrines found in the Bible, and build their lives on the foundation of God’s Word. Additionally, as our culture becomes more hostile toward Christian belief and biblical morality, this course will prepare students to enter the broader world with a better defense of the Christian faith based on biblical doctrine. Specifically, this course covers the doctrines of Scripture, God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Creation, Man, Sin, Redemption, the Church, and the End Times.

Required Textbook: *ESV Study Bible* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008)

Electives

Foundational Events of the Bible:

Genesis 1-11

Teacher: Mike Henderson

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$5)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>7/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Within the opening chapters of the book of Genesis we find many biblical teachings at least in seed form. The primary topics covered in this class will be creation, evolution, Satan and the fall of man, the global flood and Noah's ark, the age of the earth, the fossil record, and the tower of Babel.

Electives

Girls High School Bible Study

Teacher: Kim Buckley

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	30 min - 1 hour
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Every week the girls and I will meet to study the Bible together to build on the things they have learned at home or in church already. Students will be encouraged to study the Bible on their own at home. To that end, we will start the year by discussing some traditional as well as some unique ways for them to spend time with the Lord that will reflect the unique personality and giftings that the Lord has given each of them and then we will move onto other topics.

After our initial study outlined above, we will do a workbook style Bible study book that students will complete at home to discuss during class (TBD). After that, we will decide together what to study next. Those topics might include things like the fruit of the Spirit, the armor of God, women of the Bible, prayer, etc. All studies will be based heavily on scripture.

We will also share prayer requests with each other and I will encourage the girls to be in regular prayer for each other.

My goal for this class is to create a place for prayer, worship, and meaningful interaction among the girls in the class and to encourage them in their walk with the Lord as they continue to grow and develop their unique gifts and callings.

The Materials fee will cover that first book we will study together, a quiet time/prayer journal for each girl, as well as any printing that needs to be done throughout the year.

Electives

Introduction to Crochet

Teacher: Lily Proffitt

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 hr +</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>3/6</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Welcome to those who already know the basics! In the first few weeks, we will be focused on the same basics. Hook sizes, yarn weight, tension control, chaining, and basic stitches. By the end of the year, our goal is that you can read and follow a crochet pattern, create your own patterns, and sell items, if you wish. We will learn the basic business side of selling homemade items as well, but most of the time will be spent on learning and creating.

Please note: Introduction to Crochet is a beginner course.

Electives

Kids Connect K-2

Teacher: Laura Mason

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Round out your co-op day with friendship-building play! We start with a snack and chat time. Then, we move on to free play or planned activities. We love to spend time outdoors playing tag, jump rope, catch, and make believe. By the end of the year, the kids will have a repertoire of classic games that they know how to play, such as Seven Up, Would You Rather, and Red Light, Green Light.

Toys and games will be provided, but children can also bring things from home to share, as well as participating in show-and-tell days. Students are also encouraged to lead and plan activities during the year. We will work on engaging in group settings and having conversations. We'll also practice classroom etiquette like how to stand in a line, listen to instructions, raise hands, make silence, and be polite to teachers and other students. Most importantly, kids will have the opportunity to deepen relationships with the friends they are already spending time with in their more content-based classes.

Electives

Kids Connect 3-5

Teacher: Laura Mason

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-5</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This period gives students a chance to spend time with friends! We'll play board games, learn group games, do team-building activities, and just have free time together. We'll start class with a snack and chat time and then move on to an activity or free time. Sometimes we'll go outdoors. Students are encouraged to help lead and plan activities and bring toys or games from home to share. We will work on engaging in group settings and having conversations. Most importantly, kids will have the opportunity to deepen relationships with the friends they are already spending time with in their more content-based classes.

Electives

Middle School: Exploring The Bible

Teacher: Dale Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 hour/week</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The Bible's big story centers around God's redemptive plan and how He has been and will continue unfolding that plan through his Son, Jesus Christ. In this course, MS Exploring the Bible, students will embark on a journey from the creation account in Genesis through God's promised restoration in Revelation, discovering how Jesus is the promised Savior that can be seen and studied throughout all the Scriptures. The course covers 40 key passages in the Bible that every middle school student should understand. The goal of each of these Bible studies is that the student would better understand God through the study of His Word and be encouraged to live wholly devoted to Him.

Electives

Middle School STEM

Teacher: Chelsea Hall

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/21</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7th, 8th</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Students will engage in fun, hands-on challenges in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Working with a partner or in groups, the team will be given a scenario with materials and parameters with which they need to complete a challenge. This class is perfect for those who love building with their hands and working with simple machines. They will not be sitting at their desk for long, but will be up working on tasks like balloon rockets, zip lines, egg drop, catapults, rubber band cars, Rube Goldberg Machines, etc. Topics are different every year so students can take STEM year after year and learn new content! Topics for next year may include seasonal holidays, current events, animals, physics, life sciences, earth sciences, botany, weather and meteorology, and more!

Electives

Music Mind Games K-2

Teacher: Janice Philbrick

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>15 min or less</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>3/10</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

“Music Mind Games’ is an innovative method for teaching music literacy and music theory.” It can be enjoyed both by students who are taking other music lessons and by those who are not. The colorful, hands-on materials of Music Mind Games will be used throughout each class, as students grow in knowledge, understanding, and enjoyment of musical concepts such as dictation & sight-singing, musical alphabet & intervals, reading rhythms, staff & notes, tempo and music symbols, all through participating in the activities of the class.

Time permitting, classes may also begin or end with a touch of music history and appreciation. Students will do a coloring or activity page while listening to a recording and learning a few brief items of interest about a composer or time period. Through the year they will assemble a musical folder with these pages.

If families would like to purchase Music Mind Games materials to use at home, a "Puppy Pack" is available from Music Mind Games, but it is fairly expensive, completely optional, and not at all required for the class.

Electives

Music Mind Games 3-5

Teacher: Janice Philbrick

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>None - 15 minutes</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>3/8</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-5</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

"Music Mind Games is an innovative method for teaching music literacy and music theory." It can be enjoyed both by students who are taking other music lessons and by those who are not. The colorful, hands-on materials of Music Mind Games will be used throughout each class, as students grow in understanding of musical concepts such as dictation and sight singing, musical alphabet and intervals, reading rhythms, staff and notes, tempo and music symbols, all through participating in the activities of the class.

Time permitting, classes may also begin or end with a touch of music history and appreciation. Students will do a coloring or activity page while listening to a musical excerpt and learning a few brief items of interest about a composer or time period. Through the year they will assemble a music folder with these pages.

If families would like to purchase Music Mind Games materials to use at home, a "Puppy Pack" is available from Music Mind Games, but is fairly expensive, completely optional, and not at all necessary for the class.

Electives

PSAT/SAT Prep

Teacher: Chelsie Porterfield

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \${{SS}})</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-3 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course will prepare your student to be successful when taking the PSAT and SAT. Through games, competitions, and instruction your student will review:

- Reading Comprehension
- Reasoning Skills
- Identifying and Correcting Grammar Errors
- Answering Evidence-Based Questions About Reading Passages
- Linear Expressions
- Linear Inequalities
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, Dividing, and Simplifying Complex Numbers
- Single and Multi-Step Problems About Percent
- Comparing Linear Growth and Exponential Growth
- Geometry Problems
- Strategy
- And much more!!

The materials fee will cover a set of SAT vocabulary flashcards.

Materials Needed: 2" Binder, Pack of 5 dividers, notebook paper, pencils, graph paper, Texas Instruments TI-30X IIS Scientific Calculator

No textbook required

Electives

Route 66 Bible Study 3-5 (Year B)

Teacher: Bethany Hamner

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1.5 - 2 hrs.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this two-year class, we will explore all 66 books of the Bible. Year A will cover the Old Testament (Genesis through Malachi). Year B will cover the New Testament (Matthew through Revelation). While we will not cover every story in the Bible, we will cover the most popular ones. I will be teaching your students the Books of the Bible using a fast-paced, fun song that my kids learned when they were younger.

We will take a break from the Bible Study plan for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. During those special holidays, we will have a different lesson/craft.

- Class time: will consist of Bible stories, songs, games, and a craft each week.
- Homework: will consist of worksheets from the Route 66 curriculum.
- Scrapbook: will consist of a craft, which we will complete in class for each book of the Bible.
- Prayer/Praise Time: Each week I will ask if students have prayer requests or praises they would like to share with the class and we will have a special prayer for them.

Material fees will be used for Route 66 workbook, copy paper/ink, binders for the students' scrapbooks, crayons, glue sticks, and other miscellaneous craft supplies.

Electives

STEM I

Teacher: Chelsea Hall

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$45</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/21</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3rd, 4th</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Each week students will interact and engage in hands-on projects in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. This class is project-based learning that promotes group cooperation. Activities are based on a monthly theme or seasonal topic where the students will then apply what they learn with a STEM challenge. Lessons are fun and active - they will not be sitting in their seats for long! This is the perfect class for kinesthetic learners! Topics are different every year so students can take STEM year after year and learn new content! Topics will include seasonal holidays, current events, animals, physics, life sciences, earth sciences, botany, weather and meteorology, and more!

Electives

STEM II

Teacher: Chelsea Hall

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/21</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>5th, 6th</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This class is very similar to STEM I with the exception that challenges will have harder requirements and more difficult parameters. Each week students will interact and engage in hands-on projects in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and/or Math. This is project-based learning that promotes group cooperation. Activities are based on a monthly theme or seasonal topic where the students will then apply what they learn with a STEM challenge. Lessons are fun and active - they will not be sitting in their seats long! This is the perfect class for kinesthetic learners! Topics are different every year so students can take STEM year after year and learn new content! Topics will include seasonal holidays, current events, animals, physics, life sciences, earth sciences, botany, weather and meteorology, and more!

Electives

Sewing 101

Teacher: Carlee Whitlock

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>30 minutes</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>3/6</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

Sewing 101 is for beginners or novice sewers. You will learn about sewing machines and practical hand sewing skills, as well as complete a few projects to inspire your creativity! The projects include a pillowcase, tote bag, apron, bed caddy, and an end-of-year project. Enjoy learning a skill and feel proud of what you've made!

What you'll need for class: fabric scissors, ruler, and a binder

Electives

Sewing 102 (for Girls)

Teacher: Carlee Whitlock

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>30 minutes</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>4/8</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/instr. approv</i>

Sewing 102 is a continuation class from Sewing 101. You must have taken Sewing 101/ Spring 102 or have worked with me previously to take this class. No exceptions. We will continue building on the skills we learned last year. The projects will be more in depth with a focus on darts, zippers, waistbands, hemming, etc. Let's start creating your wardrobe!
What you'll need: fabric scissors, ruler, and binder.

Please note: This class will only accept enrollment for girls as the sewing projects being taught will deal only with female styles and fashions.

Electives

Storybook STEM

Teacher: Chelsea Hall

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i> <i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	<i>\$45</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2nd</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Each week students will be read a fun storybook or fairytale story that will go along with a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activity. Stories will include classic fairy tales like Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Jack and the Beanstalk, The Three Billy Goats Gruff, Rapunzel and more! Other storybooks will go along with a monthly theme or seasonal topic. The STEM activities will be hands-on and promote group cooperation. Topics are different every year so students can take STEM year after year and learn new content! This class does not require any reading or writing abilities so it is perfect for kinesthetic learners!

Electives

Think and Debate: Issues, Politics,
and Big Questions

Teacher: Joseph Sigalas

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$315</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 - 2</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>20/25</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>10 - 12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/inst. approv</i>

In "Think and Debate," students will learn how to form and present well-structured written and oral discussions/arguments on given topics. Students will learn to write claims, identify and use rhetorical and argumentation strategies, develop and defend arguments, research and cite sources, and collaborate with others. Students will receive assignments and feedback for specific discussion tasks. Please note: This class is not aimed at teaching formal, competitive debate (e.g., Lincoln-Douglas, Team Policy), but discussions will follow a prescribed team debate format.

Electives

Traveling Through the Bible K-2
(Year B)

Teacher: Bethany Hamner

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$45
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	No
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-1.5 hrs.
Min/Max Students:	5/12
Grade Level:	K-2
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

In this two-year class, we will explore all 66 books of the Bible. Year A will cover the Old Testament (Genesis through Malachi). Year B will cover the New Testament (Matthew through Revelation). While we will not cover every story in the Bible, we will cover the most popular ones. I will be teaching your students the Books of the Bible using a fast-paced, fun song that my kids learned when they were younger.

We will take a break from the Bible Study plan for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. During those special holidays, we will have a different lesson/craft.

- Class time: will consist of Bible stories, songs, games, and a craft each week.
- Homework: will consist of mostly coloring sheets with a paragraph about the story we will cover in class. Sometimes there will be matching worksheets, mazes, trace the words, word search (age appropriate), and other worksheets.
- Scrapbook: will consist of a craft, which we will complete in class for each book of the Bible.
- Prayer/Praise Time: Each week I will ask if students have prayer requests or praises they would like to share with the class and we will have a special prayer for them.

Material fees will be used for copy paper/ink, binders for the students' scrapbooks, crayons, glue sticks, and other miscellaneous craft supplies.

Electives

Tween and Teen Girls Self Care

Teacher: Kelly Gunther

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-2
Min/Max Students:	5/16
Grade Level:	4-7
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

We will be tackling some of the new and different things that young girls can expect to experience as they enter their teen and then adult years. From physical changes, social media, hygiene, and more in a straightforward manner with the option for anonymous questions to be submitted so that no girl needs to feel embarrassed about wanting to clarify any topic. Some weeks there will be homework and some weeks none depending on the topic. Part of the course may involve video modules from a licensed cycle educator.

The materials fee will cover photocopies and course material for the sections covering hormones and cycle prep.

Course Materials to Purchase

- 3 ring binder
- colored pencils or markers
- *Celebrate Your Body (and It's Changes Too!)* by Sonya Renee Taylor and *Celebrate Your Feelings* by Lauren Rivers, available on Amazon or local book store (may be subject to change)

Electives: Semester

Brainteasers: Fun with Math & Logic

Teacher: Venita Richmond

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$150</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Critical thinking skills - the ability to examine information, manipulate ideas, and combine knowledge in different ways - are important for every child's education. They can be applied to a variety of subjects, and help improve standardized test scores. In this class, students will develop critical thinking skills while engaging in fun games and activities. Students will work together to solve brain teasers, riddles, puzzles, and more. Homework will be rare.

Electives: Semester

Christian Worldview - Assumptions

Teacher: Dan Gritsko

Yearly Course Fee:	\$120
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$20
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3 hrs.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	No

This course has been created with the hope of supporting ACTS families who desire their son or daughter to deepen their understanding of our Christian faith. We will do this by enhancing their development of a Christian Worldview and using the new Assumptions model. Key applications from Daniel chapter 1, other verses from scripture, engaging activities, a review of contemporary worldview claims, and the “assumptions” approach to worldview, form the framework for the class.

Outline

We will start and finish the course by investigating Daniel chapter 1. We will study the “assumptions” model as an approach, and read the book, *Transparent*. We will look at key verses such as Romans 12:1-2, 1 Peter 3:15, and verses from Matthew 16. We will examine the central event of history. We will also apply that event as a grid for the study of history and contrast it with contemporary American worldview claims, and other worldviews. We will also discuss the development and practical application of a Christian understanding of the world around us. We will also reference current events and look at them from a Biblical perspective.

Course goals:

- To support Christian families as they impart Christian faith to their children
- For students to be equipped to better understand our Awesome God and the world that He created
- To provide opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of key aspects of our Christian faith. In doing so, to enable them to both understand the world around them and impact it for Jesus.

Textbook: You do not need to purchase this separately. The book, *Transparent*, by Dave Richardson will be purchased in bulk by Mr. Gritsko using the material fees. Material fees will also be used for copies and handouts.

Possible late fall field trip to Washington D.C. (date TBD) We may plan to charter a motor coach and tour Washington D.C., led by Mr. Gritsko who has 30 years of experience in educational travel. Cost and details for the trip will come in early fall. Many ACTS families have enjoyed this annual day trip. This fall would be the first trip in a few years.

Electives: Semester

Economics

Teacher: Mike Henderson

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$10
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	N/A

This class is a basic introduction to the principles of economics in an engaging and practical way. Students will learn and understand how these things affect their everyday lives. We will discuss the macro-economics topics of employment, inflation, money and banking, government fiscal policy, and the Federal Reserve monetary policy. Our micro-economics principles will include scarcity, opportunity costs, supply and demand, and the behavior of people and companies. Course material will be handed out in class.

Electives - Semester

Foundations in Personal Finance
Teacher: Mike Henderson

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$125</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This could be your student's one stop shop for personal finance. Engaging lessons cover all the big topics from Emergency Fund, Savings, Spending, Investing, and Generosity. We talk about buying cars to paying for college. Your student's ability to handle money will accelerate in a positive direction. Textbook is provided.

Electives: Semester

Speech /Communication

Teacher: Dan Gritsko

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \${{SS}})</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>2 - 3 hrs.</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

This course for 7th -12th graders will help students develop public speaking skills, communication skills, and motivation to use their God-given gifts to impact the world. I am excited for your son or daughter to join the class!

Overview:

- We start the class with simple speeches and build throughout the semester
- Weekly in class participation to include prepared speeches, discussions, & speech games
- Speech preparation, research, course reading will be about 2 - 3 hours per week
- Learning the skills of effective speech and evaluation

The materials fee will be used for copies and handouts. The class tends to become an enjoyable place for interacting with other students, learning, improving communication skills, and learning the ins and outs of public speaking, in the midst of a fun and welcoming environment.

Foreign Language

ASL Through Projects
(American Sign Language)
Teacher: Autumn Temple

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$7.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1*</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/22</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This multi-level class offers a creative approach for learning American Sign Language. The main focus in this class will be to build vocabulary skills by working on projects such as, learning to sign to music, translating poetry, stories and scripture. As we build our vocabulary skills by learning through these projects we will learn to have some classroom conversation in ASL, as well. Students will benefit from working on projects as a class and individually. The individual projects will also give students a chance to work on their “receptive language skills” as they are able to view the projects of their peers in class. Each student will need to have a research resource such as an ASL dictionary and /or access to the internet.

*homework will vary by project

Foreign Language

Elementary German K-2

Teacher: Jennifer Douglas

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Willkommen! Elementary German will be an introduction to the German language. Students will learn the basic vocabulary of numbers, colors, family members, food and clothing items, etc. Each week, their expanding vocabulary will be used in a variety of ways to communicate. The class will incorporate all four components of language (writing, reading, speaking, listening). Each class will offer opportunities to engage using different language acquisition avenues such as role play, games, matching vocabulary, presentations, songs, storytelling and more. The main focus of the class will be to be able to use the language and build a solid foundation as well as a love for different languages and cultures. Besides the necessary vocabulary training, students will explore German culture, music, art and more.

Foreign Language

Elementary German 3-6

Teacher: Karin Wilcox

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-6</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Willkommen! Elementary German will be an introduction to the German language. Students will learn the basic vocabulary of numbers, colors, family members, food and clothing items, etc. Each week, their expanding vocabulary will be used in a variety of ways to communicate. The class will incorporate all four components of language (writing, reading, speaking, listening). Each class will offer opportunities to engage using different language acquisition avenues such as role play, games, matching vocabulary, presentations, songs, storytelling and more. The main focus of the class will be to be able to use the language and build a solid foundation as well as a love for different languages and cultures. Besides the necessary vocabulary training, students will explore German culture, music, art and more.

Foreign Language

French I

Teacher: Edlira Brubaker

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$360</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1-2 hours</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

This is an introductory high school-level course. Students will learn French language and culture practicing all four skills: listening, reading, writing, and speaking. We will be covering grammar, vocabulary, culture, and discover the Francophone world. The course will be organized around interactive and communicative activities that will allow students to build all skills in the most effective way.

Foreign Language

German 1

Teacher: Wendy King

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \${{SS}})</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3-4 hours
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

This is a high school level German class; upon completion you can put GERMAN 1 on your high school transcript. You should expect to spend 3-5 hours each week on homework and learning vocab.

We will use a German 1 textbook, projects, games, songs, bible verses and more to gain a basic foundation in German.

Students will learn to count, ask and answer lots of basic German questions, learn adjectives, learn how to write simple sentences, learn verbs, and vocabulary. Students will learn about the German speaking countries, customs, and more. Students will also read, write, and watch videos in German. After taking this class students will appreciate people who speak several languages or non-native English speakers – trying to speak English.

Required: Deutsch Aktuell, level 1, 2010 student edition textbook, a three-ring binder, access to the internet for vocabulary learning (I found this to be faster than students creating their own flashcards – using online ones that I have created. This allows them to do it in several ways, be tested – for themselves, and play games with specific learned vocabulary.), and time daily to practice (with a combination of Worksheets, textbook work and learning vocabulary).

Foreign Language

Middle School French

Teacher: Edlira Brubaker

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$315</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1-2 hours</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Middle school French is an introductory course that will enable students to develop elementary proficiency in oral expression, listening comprehension, reading, writing, and cultural understanding in French on topics related to daily activities and personal environment.

Middle School French will be a fun, interactive course through videos, games, dialogues, songs and Bible verses. Throughout the course students will be provided with various website links they can practice all four learning skills in an entertaining and challenging way.

Foreign Language

Spanish 3-5

Teacher: Señora Artusio

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class is designed for comprehensible exposure to Spanish. Students will be introduced to the sounds of the Spanish language in the first few weeks of class to solidify a foundation. Then, we will work the remainder of the year on listening, reading, writing, and speaking to build vocabulary using thematic units that easily correlate to everyday life (weather, home, seasonal vocabulary, etc.). Hispanic and Latin American culture, cuisine, and geography will be included throughout the course. The focus for this class is expanding input and absorption through listening, speaking, games, songs, reading, writing, and project-based-learning.

Goals:

- Work with numbers up to 100 in Spanish; acquire knowledge of numbers to 1,000 • Read, write, and spell at a basic level in Spanish, especially in response to a reading passage (i.e., comprehension questions) or teacher-directed questions.
- Grasp the sense of a literature passage read independently or read aloud, and to narrate in English or Spanish the basic idea of what they have read or heard.
- Describe something they have seen, heard, or studied in Spanish using thematic vocabulary and phrases • Complete thematic projects throughout the year that foster comprehension and language permanence.

Homework structure: A homework/activity packet is sent out each week, which may include a reading passage or fluency ladder, writing practice, a suggested song/media selection, a game, and/or instructions for any projects to be completed. Students would benefit greatly by being exposed to Spanish as often as possible when not in class.

*Materials fee (\$50) covers: hand-outs, worksheets, lessons, games, extra craft supplies, extra teaching supplies, media purchases for class or home use, and project materials.

Materials Needed: *Teacher provided*

*Media options:

- Fablingua - A fabulous story telling app in Spanish (\$35/year, family account up to six children, included in materials fee)
- Duolingo - A well-known free app for learning a language (*Note to parents: some material must be filtered for age appropriateness and/or religious concerns.)

Foreign Language

Spanish I

Teacher: Señora Artusio

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-4 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course is designed to meet the minimum requirements for high school foreign language credit. In this course, we will be covering music, art, grammar, translation, literature, thematic vocabulary, pronunciation and conversation, speaking and listening exercises, culture, and cuisine. Class time will focus on conversational Spanish, introducing grammatical structures, present and past tenses, review work, quizzes, culture, and communicating in Spanish. Students will need computer or internet access outside of class time to participate in office hours and team projects, and to complete quizzes, tests, or homework using online applications and instructor links. This class is aimed towards 50% immersion in spoken Spanish.

Goals: This class utilizes the VA DOE SOLs for Foreign Language Learning as a guide to ensure students would meet Virginia requirements for high school foreign language credit: (https://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/foreign_language/2014/spanish/stds_spanish1-4.pdf) and the American Council for Teachers of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines to assess student progress and proficiency (transferrable to future careers and life opportunities): <https://www.actfl.org/resources/actfl-proficiency-guidelines-2012/spanish>

Homework structure: Homework instructions and expectations are established in the beginning of the year on the course syllabus. Check-ins and weekly plans are available on the website (currently being updated). Homework will include reading, writing, listening activities, cultural or geographical information, games, and instructions for student selected and instructor guided projects/presentations. Students are expected to be exposed to Spanish almost daily in order to be successful in this class and receive credit.

*Materials Needed: a binder, a binder pouch for games and materials, pencils.

*Materials fee (\$50) covers: teacher purchased textbooks; hand-outs, worksheets, lessons, games, extra teaching supplies, media purchases for class or home use, and project materials.

Foreign Language

Spanish II

Teacher: Señora Artusio

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$50
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2-5hrs
Min/Max Students:	4/20
Grade Level:	9+
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

This course is designed to meet the minimum requirements for high school foreign language credit. In this course, we will be covering music, art, grammar, translation, literature, thematic vocabulary, pronunciation and conversation, speaking and listening exercises, culture, and cuisine.

Class time will focus on conversational Spanish, introducing grammatical structures, present and past tenses, review work, quizzes, culture, and communicating in Spanish. Students will need computer or internet access outside of class time to participate in office hours and team projects, and to complete quizzes, tests, or homework using online applications and instructor links.

This class is 50%-70% immersion in spoken Spanish, and it is required to have previous exposure to Spanish in some format.

Goals: This class utilizes the VA DOE SOLs for Foreign Language Learning as a guide to ensure students would meet Virginia requirements for high school foreign language credit: (https://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/foreign_language/2014/spanish/stds_spanish1-4.pdf) and the American Council for Teachers of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines to assess student progress and proficiency (transferrable to future careers and life opportunities): <https://www.actfl.org/resources/actfl-proficiency-guidelines-2012/spanish>

Homework structure: Homework instructions and expectations are established in the beginning of the year on the course syllabus. Check-ins and weekly plans are available on the website (currently being updated). Homework will include reading, writing, listening activities, cultural or geographical information, games, and instructions for student selected and instructor guided projects/presentations. Students are expected to be exposed to Spanish almost daily in order to be successful in this class and receive credit.

*Materials Needed: a binder, a binder pouch for games and materials, sheet protector, pencils.

*Materials fee (\$50) covers: a teacher-purchased textbook; hand-outs, worksheets, lessons, games, extra teaching supplies, media purchases for class or home use, and project materials.

Foreign Language

Spanish 5-8 Level I

Teacher: Martha Young

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$14.5)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-8
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this course, students will learn basic vocabulary for communication as well as simple grammar and verb forms. We will focus on an appreciation and a curiosity about the lives of Spanish speaking peoples, while integrating conversation and reading recognition. Includes fun learning activities, games, and prizes to reinforce the lesson!

Textbook: Easy Spanish Step-By –Step, approximately \$12.95, available from the teacher

History and Geography

Cool Modern History for
Elementary 3-6 (1850-Present) (Year 4)
Teacher: Kelly Gunther

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2-3
Min/Max Students:	5/16
Grade Level:	3-6
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

We will be learning about and discussing people, places, and events that have led us to the world as we know it and how these parts will continue to shape our lives. There will be weekly reading to prepare for class discussion and activities to reinforce the topic.

Textbook: *Story of the World* Vol. 4 (may be subject to change)

Materials to Purchase:

- 3 ring binder
- colored pencils or markers

History and Geography

Cool Modern History for Middle
School 6-8 (1850-Present) (Year 4)
Teacher: Kelly Gunther

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2-3
Min/Max Students:	5/16
Grade Level:	6-8
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

We will be learning about and discussing people, places, and events that have led us to the world as we know it and how they will continue to shape our lives. There will be weekly reading to prepare for class discussion and activities to reinforce the topic. We will also be working on how to construct paragraphs leading up to a final essay at the end of the school year.

Textbook: *Story of the World* Vol. 4 (may be subject to change)

Materials to Purchase:

- 3 ring binder
- colored pencils or markers

History and Geography

Government and Presidential
History - Year A
Teacher: Bethany Hamner

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	4-5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Your student will gain an understanding of how our government works. We will begin by studying the three branches of government. We will also learn about Washington DC buildings and the people that occupy them. We will also learn about the Electoral College and we have a fun game to help the students with that concept. Finally, we will learn about all our presidents during this 2-year course. We play a game every week, whether it is Jeopardy, a presidential trivia game, or Election Night, and we always have a fun time. At the end of the year, students will pick their favorite president from that year and do a living history presentation. At the completion of the second year, your student will have a scrapbook with pictures/information on all the US Presidents.

Materials fees include: three ring binder for scrapbook, color copies, black and white copies, games, books, videos, posters, poster board, glue sticks, scissors, and other materials.

*I will make age exceptions since this is a 2-year course.

*2nd semester enrollment – yes, but student’s scrapbook will be incomplete

History and Geography

Hands on History: Medieval &
Renaissance History (Year 2)

Teacher: Carol Henderson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-2 hrs
Min/Max Students:	7/14
Grade Level:	3-6
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

This Hands-On History course uses BiblioPlan's *Remember the Days: Medieval Days* as its textbook. The class starts with the Fall of Rome and continues through the medieval era to the discovery of the New World.

Each class will begin with a review of the homework material, adding corresponding figures to Timeline Pages. The hands-on project is based on the week's topic. These projects include creating a Roman Standard, a Viking Longship, a Robin Hood cap, a Norman helmet, a Medieval Life & Times lapbook, and many more exciting activities!

For homework, the student must read the assigned textbook chapter(s) and fill-in a short-answer worksheet. The student is expected to read books outside of the textbook, and to share an extracurricular book with the class 3X per year.

Besides reading, homework may also include handouts to complete or Map Worksheets to shade, label, &/or find & circle locations. The Map Worksheets are included in the Materials Fee and do not need to be purchased separately.

On the first day, students will create their own set of Timeline Pages to be used throughout the year and kept in the back of their binders. The cost of supplies for Timelines is covered in the Materials Fee.

In lieu of tests and exams, the class will have Review Games. The competition fosters a motivation to study, and the game is structured to reward individual achievement.

The Materials Fee covers craft supplies for the weekly projects and the photocopying of all maps, timeline figures, and handouts. Concentrated effort has been made to keep this fee low through strategic purchasing and through utilizing donated or household items as much as possible.

Required textbook to purchase:

- BiblioPlan's *Remember the Days: Medieval Days* (please inquire about our discount!)
- Supplies to Purchase:
 - 3-ring binder
 - 1 set of colored pencils for map homework

History and Geography

U.S. History

Teacher: David Merriman

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$315</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	4-5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/30
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

The class is a fast-paced survey spanning early America to the 21st century. To investigate and discuss this rich period of time, we will necessarily move quickly. If your student has reading challenges let's discuss accommodations in advance. To enhance the overview students will be challenged to apply a deeper understanding of questions arising out of each period of US History. These questions will include: what was the average American's life like, how were different groups of American viewed and treated, and how God's guiding hand was revealed. Students will be expected to complete weekly reading assignments in preparation for discussion focused classes.

Note:

- There is no prerequisite
- This class is most fitting for 11th and 12th graders. The two World History courses are recommended for 9th and 10th graders

Textbook:

- *The American Vision: Appleby, Brinkley, Broussard, McPherson, Ritchie.* Glencoe Press/McGraw Hill version copyright 2008

History & Geography

World Geography & Cultures K-2

Teacher: Carol Henderson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In the K-2 World Geography & Cultures class, your child will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US.

Class time consists of the students finding and coloring the week's country on a map; putting the appropriate flag in their Geography "Passport"; learning about the country's landmarks, people, customs, and highlights from books, photos, & video; and creating a corresponding craft. A coloring sheet on the country is offered as an optional activity.

Since each country is covered during the weekly class time, there is no additional work that students need to complete at home.

The Materials Fee covers the maps, passports, flags, supplies for the weekly crafts & activities, and photocopying of coloring pages and all other handouts.

Items to Purchase:

- 1) Please purchase a 3-ring binder for this class. Students will make tabbed dividers as one of the class projects.

History and Geography

World Geography & Cultures:

Grades 3-5

Teacher: Carol Henderson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

NOTE: Internet Access Required

In World Geography & Cultures for Grades 3-5, students will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world, learning natural geography, landmarks, culture, economy, food, and more along the way. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US.

Class time starts with maps. Every week, students will find the theme country on the continent map, as well as other significant points of interest. Next comes activities with the country's flag, followed by researching the country together with photos, video, and sharing information students have researched at home. Students are expected to take notes on this material, adding to their Geography Journals.

Students will also create a Geography Glossary, adding a new geography term each week.

Homework includes researching countries & filling out select parts of the Journaling pages supplied by the teacher and looking up & defining the week's geography term. Occasionally, homework may also include other activities. Homework requires INTERNET ACCESS to research information.

An atlas is recommended, but not required. If you purchase an atlas, it must cover individual countries.

The Materials Fee covers the purchase of the notebooking set for each student (\$10); maps, flags, & misc. supplies for additional activities; paper & photocopying costs of all handouts; & binding the journals at the end of the year. Parents may choose to purchase an optional atlas.

Items to Purchase:

Items to Purchase:

- 1) 3-ring binder
- 2) Colored pencils for labeling/shading maps and coloring flags.
- 3) An atlas is optional. If you purchase one, it must cover individual countries, such as:
 - DK Publishing, *Our World in Pictures, Countries of the World*, 2020 Edition
 - DK Publishing, *Geography of the World*, 2006 Edition

History and Geography

World Geography & Cultures

Grades 6-8

Teacher: Carol Henderson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-2 hrs
Min/Max Students:	8/25
Grade Level:	6-8
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

*NOTE: Internet Access Required

In World Geography & Cultures for Grades 6-8, students will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world, learning natural geography, landmarks, culture, economy, food, and more along the way. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US.

Students will use world maps, continent maps, & country maps as we explore each part of the globe together.

Class will start with reviewing our Geography Glossary term together. Then we will jump right into learning about our theme country, starting with maps, & moving on to flags and basic facts, such as the official name, currency, land mass, etc. This is followed by in-depth research accompanied by photos & video, & sharing information students have researched at home. Students are expected to take notes on this material, adding to their own Geography Journal.

Homework includes completing a map of the theme country, answering questions and finding key landmarks. Students will define a weekly geography term on Glossary pages supplied by the teacher, creating their personalized Geography Glossary. Students will research various topics on the week's theme country on attractive Journaling pages supplied by the teacher. Homework requires INTERNET ACCESS to research the week's theme country and geography term. An Atlas is recommended, but not required.

Throughout the year, students will be required to know the location of countries on continent maps.

The Materials Fee covers the purchase of the notebooking set for each student (\$10); maps, flags, & misc. supplies for additional activities; paper & photocopying costs of all handouts; & binding the journals at the end of the year. Parents may choose to purchase an optional Atlas.

Items to Purchase:

- 1) 3-ring binder
- 2) Colored pencils for labeling/shading maps and coloring flags.
- 3) An atlas is optional. If you purchase one, it must cover individual countries, such as:
 - DK Publishing, *Our World in Pictures, Countries of the World*, 2020 Edition
 - DK Publishing, *Geography of the World*, 2006 Edition

History and Geography

World History II: Middle Ages to Present

Teacher: David Merriman

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/30
<i>Grade Level:</i>	*9- 12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

World History I: Prehistory to Middle Ages

World History II: Middle Ages to Present

World History is organized as two fast paced survey courses spanning all of human history. The courses will be of necessity broad overviews, with many illustrative details woven in. While the focus is Western Culture, many other areas, peoples, cultures and ideas will be discussed. Students will have reading assignments each week to be completed in preparation for class discussions. Discussions are Socratic with students expected to participate. Students will also be given writing assignments.

Notes:

- The two years can be taken in any order
- These two classes have less weekly work compared to US History, and are thus recommended for underclassmen with US History recommended for 11th or 12th grade students.

Textbook:

- *World History The Human Odyssey* by Jackson J. Spielvogel

*** This course is recommended for 9th and 10th grade**

Language Arts

Academic Writing I

Teacher: Susan Sigalas

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$315</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>5+</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-9</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Overview: This course is designed for 7th-9th grade students and will equip students to write at the high school level. It focuses on learning to write effective paragraphs and essays, beginning with the importance of following a writing process, crafting strong thesis statements and topic sentences, and developing ideas in paragraphs. Students will learn about argumentative and other academic forms of writing; the importance of audience and purpose; and documentation of sources in MLA style. Students will learn effective steps for organizing, drafting, revising, and editing their essays.

Grammar proficiency: Prior to enrolling, students should be able to write complete sentences and know how to avoid fused sentences (run-ons) and sentence fragments. Grammar will be addressed throughout the year, especially focusing on major editing errors, such as fused sentences, comma splices, sentence fragments, apostrophe errors, pronoun-antecedent agreement errors, and subject-verb agreement errors.

Writing: This course is writing intensive. Students will read a chapter or two from their textbook each week and answer questions at the end of each chapter. They will also have a short writing assignment to turn in each week, building to full-length essays spring semester.

Needed materials: A notebook, at least 5 different colored highlighters (orange, blue, green, yellow, pink), computer access with a printer, and an email address that contains the student's last name. Textbook for parents to purchase: Everything You Need to Ace English Language Arts in One Big Fat Notebook. I will provide short stories and poems we will read and grammar/mechanics and instructional handouts.

Language Arts

Academic Writing II

Teacher: Susan Sigalas

Yearly Course Fee:	<i>\$315</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>5+</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8-10</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Overview: This course is designed for 8–10th grade students. This class equips students to write at the high school level. It focuses on the essay: the importance of following a writing process, crafting strong thesis statements and topic sentences, and developing ideas in paragraphs. Students will learn about argumentative and other academic forms of writing; the importance of audience and purpose; and documentation of sources in MLA style. Students will learn the importance of organizing, drafting, revising, and editing their essays.

Grammar proficiency: Prior to enrolling, students should be able to write complete sentences and know how to avoid fused sentences (run-ons) and sentence fragments. Grammar will be addressed throughout the year as needed, especially focusing on major editing errors, such as fused sentences, comma splices, sentence fragments, apostrophe errors, pronoun-antecedent agreement errors, and subject-verb agreement errors.

Writing: This course is writing intensive. Students will read and respond to a variety of essays and articles to learn how writers organize their ideas and support their arguments with details, examples, and research. They will learn to transfer those techniques to writing their own essays.

Students will write five essays: the personal narrative, the comparison-contrast essay, and three argumentative essays.

Needed materials: Textbook to be determined. A notebook, at least 4 different colored highlighters, computer access with a printer, and an email address that contains the student's last name.

Provided materials: A booklet containing writing instructions, the articles and essays we will read, grammar/mechanics handouts, and essay topics.

Language Arts

Advanced Creative Writing 9+

Teacher: Joseph Sigalas

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Advanced Creative Writing Workshop is a one-year, repeatable course designed to inspire and challenge experienced student-writers by giving them more advanced writing assignments in a number of creative genres, such as fiction (stories), poetry, drama, song lyrics, and creative nonfiction. Each semester, students will have the chance to focus on a more extended piece they develop over a number of weeks.

We will develop an understanding of genres by exploring (and playing with) creative conventions and techniques. We will study historical/literary examples, sometimes imitating their effects for practice, and sometimes purposefully violating conventions to see what happens when we play with audience expectations.

We will also learn that good creative writing is about more than writing the first draft. It's also about revising and editing. The class will include many "workshop" (seminar-style) days, during which writers can read (or have someone else read) their ongoing work aloud, and the class will provide constructive feedback. These feedback sessions will be voluntary for the writers.

* Textbook: a formal text has not been selected, but students may read up to four novels, plays, or screenplays.

Please note: Throughout the year, I will occasionally change the schedule or assignments. Students should check the website and refresh the browser at least twice each week. I will record the date of the last update at the top of the page for reference.

Language Arts

Adventures in Literature

Teacher: Julie Snell

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-2 hrs
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	2-4
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

This is Year 3 of a 3-year class cycle which can be taken in any order (new books each year).

In Adventures in Literature we will enjoy exploring, discussing, and immersing ourselves in a handful of wonderful, classic (and some new) chapter books. We will learn to recognize plot, character development, themes, and lessons in our stories. We will learn new vocabulary, writing styles, and most importantly – ENJOY and love reading books! In addition to class discussions, we will delve into topics related to our books with other class readings, play games, act out scenes from our books, make lapbooks, do some writing, and participate in other hands-on classroom activities.

Students will need a backpack and their own copies of each of our chapter books to read at home. Audiobooks or reading aloud to your students are fine options, especially for reluctant readers (some of our books are more challenging reads than others). I encourage you to order these books before our school year starts. They are listed here in the anticipated reading order (final reading schedule will be handed out at orientation):

The Chocolate Touch by Patrick Skene Catling

A Bear Called Paddington by Michael Bond

All-of-a-Kind-Family by Sydney Taylor

The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo

Mary Poppins by P. L. Travers

Summer of the Woods by Steven K. Smith

Weekly homework will include: reading assignments (or audiobook/read aloud). Your student may also be assigned occasional video links to watch and/or optional recipes to try at home. There will be several creative projects to prepare at home for presentation in class.

Materials fee covers: curriculum, art supplies for in-class activities and projects, games, worksheets, lapbook supplies.

Language Arts

American Literature 8-10

Teacher: Susan Sigalas

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$20
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2+
Min/Max Students:	8/20
Grade Level:	8-10
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

American Literature 8-10 is a course designed to introduce 8th- to 10th-grade students to classic works of American literature. Students will read or view selections from a variety of genres, including non-fiction, fiction, poetry, drama, and film. They will become familiar with literary principles and terms. Although the course does not have an essay-writing component, students will have an opportunity to explore their understanding of their reading by responding to short-answer questions, discussion questions, and quizzes. Students will be expected to participate in class and occasionally discuss important ideas about the works in small groups.

We will take a chronological tour of classic American literature, starting from the beginnings of American literature, where we will look at some writings of early explorers; women who were held captive by Native Americans; pioneers; and slaves, and on into modern times. Notable authors include Mark Twain, Emily Dickinson, William Faulkner, and Ernest Hemingway, among others.

Shorter works of literature (poetry and short stories) will be bound in a book I will provide and which is covered by the materials fee. Novels should be purchased or borrowed.

Students will need a notebook for taking notes and keeping handouts.

Novels:

- *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*
- *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
- *The Red Badge of Courage*
- *The Call of the Wild*
- *The Old Man and the Sea*

Films:

- *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder
- *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*

Language Arts

College Prep Writing

Teacher: Susan Sigalas

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$20
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \${{SS}})</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	5+
Min/Max Students:	8/20
Grade Level:	10-12
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	No

This class is designed to prepare 10th through 12th grade students for college in two aspects: writing for entry to college and preparing for their first and second years of college-level compositions. The assigned readings are primarily a selection of non-fiction American essays, speeches, and news articles. Students will learn the basics of writing about literature with the final two essays.

Prerequisite: Students should be proficient in writing five-paragraph essays, conducting research, and documenting research.

Grammar: Parents should assess their student's proficiency in grammar to ensure that it is at a tenth-grade level prior to this course. College Prep Writing will begin with a grammar review and include periodic grammar reviews as needed. Research and Rhetoric: Students will conduct in-depth research using scholarly sources. They will follow the writing process by writing multiple essays and participating in peer reviews.

Major assignments will include:

- A narrative essay
- A rhetorical analysis
- Written responses to current topics
- A research paper
- A poetry explication
- A literary analysis

Required texts:

- *40 Model Essays: A Portable Anthology* by Jane E. Aaron. 2005 edition. ISBN: 978-0-312-43829-6
- A writing handbook TBD

Language Arts

Creative Writing 6-8

Teacher: Joseph Sigalas

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Creative Writing is a full-year, repeatable course designed to spark and build students' interest and confidence in writing. The point is to foster creativity through challenging but fun assignments in creative genres that include stories, poetry, drama, screenwriting, song lyrics, and creative non-fiction.

While using creativity to invent stories and blast through obstacles sometimes caused by fear of "doing it wrong," students will also learn how to write more effectively. They'll discover that the effects they enjoy in reading or watching movies—e.g., surprise, tension, or fondness for some characters and dislike of others—don't just "happen." They typically result from choices authors make about the plot, characters, language, etc. We will take time to notice these choices in samples and to think critically about them in our own writing.

We will also learn that good writing, creative or otherwise, is about more than writing the first draft. It's also about using good general writing techniques (e.g., use of concrete details), effective revision, and yes, proofreading final drafts well. Success isn't just avoiding mistakes but instead about using techniques intentionally to tell their stories and entertain/engage readers. Often, we will write freely from prompts and then focus on revising our pieces to make the writing more effective—e.g., to improve character development, improve the detail, or just make it funnier.

In-class lessons will take various forms. In addition to plenty of writing, many class days will include exercises, games, and other activities designed to foster and stretch creativity. The materials fee covers all handouts. These will include exercises as well as some homework readings.

Please note: Throughout the year, I will occasionally change the schedule or assignments. Students should check the website and refresh the browser at least twice each week. I will record the date of the last update at the top of the page for reference.

Students will need the following:

- Internet access (supervised, please), as I will post assignments to our website and accept assignments electronically.
- Plenty of notebook paper, pens, and/or pencils—brought to class each time we meet.

Some requirements:

All submitted assignments must be double spaced. Typed assignments are preferred, but longhand (also double-spaced) is fine for in-class work, worksheets, early drafts, and so forth.

Discourtesy to others is 100% unacceptable. Sharing what we have written with others takes guts, so students are required to be receptive and kind to classmates when they share.

Language Arts

Writing K-1

Teacher: Laura Mason

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0-1 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-1
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this class, we will learn writing basics through games, hands-on activities, books, and creative projects. Through hearing, copying, and talking about great writing, children will naturally start to understand how our language works. They will also be developing a love of playing with language and getting their thoughts on paper.

In order to take this class, your child does not need to be reading or writing fluently. Since a child's mind is far more developed than their handwriting at this stage, some of our projects will involve narration and transcription: the child speaks while the adult writes. This allows the child to learn how to organize their thoughts and communicate, reaching their potential in composition without the mechanics getting in the way. Parents are also encouraged to keep a notebook at home where they can jot down things that they catch their child talking about, showing them that they are already writers, and preserving their unique writing voice at this young age.

Class topics include observation, description, sentence and story structure, parts of speech, capitalization, punctuation, and improving word choice. Projects will include creating our own storybooks and an "All About Me" class notebook. We will also have seasonal "poetry parties," where we read and talk about poetry while eating snacks. One of the best parts about our class is that students have a writing community where they talk about what they are currently writing and share their finished projects.

At home, students will work through "Delightful Handwriting" (\$18) or "A Child's Copybook Reader, Book 1" (\$12) by Simply Charlotte Mason, depending on their ability level (which will be assessed at the beginning of the year). These workbooks are a gentle introduction to handwriting, spelling, and grammar through copy work, and are very easy to implement. Homework will also include occasional projects.

Language Arts

Writing 2-3

Teacher: Laura Mason

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \${{SS}})</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	2-3
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this class, we will learn writing basics through games, hands-on activities, books, and creative projects. Through hearing, copying, and talking about great writing, children will naturally start to understand how our language works. They will also be developing a love of playing with language and getting their thoughts on paper.

In order to take this class, your child does not need to be reading or writing fluently. Since a child's mind is far more developed than their handwriting at this stage, some of our projects will involve narration and transcription: the child speaks while the adult writes. This allows the child to learn how to organize their thoughts and communicate, reaching their potential in composition without the mechanics getting in the way. Parents are also encouraged to keep a notebook at home where they can jot down things that they catch their child talking about, showing them that they are already writers, and preserving their unique writing voice at this young age.

Class topics include observation, description, sentence and story structure, parts of speech, capitalization, punctuation, and improving word choice. Projects will include creating our own storybooks and an "All About Me" class notebook. We will also have seasonal "poetry parties," where we read and talk about poetry while eating snacks. One of the best parts about our class is that students have a writing community where they talk about what they are currently writing and share their finished projects.

Students will be assessed at the beginning of the year and placed at their ability level in the Simply Charlotte Mason writing series, which are to be used at home. These workbooks are a gentle introduction to handwriting, spelling, and grammar through copy work, and are very easy to implement. "Delightful Handwriting" (\$18), "A Child's Copybook Reader" (Book 1, 2, or 3 - \$12), or "Print to Cursive Proverbs" (\$18). Homework will also include occasional projects.

Language Arts

Grammar

Teacher: Venita Richmond

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Good grief...it's grammar time!? If this is your student's reaction to grammar (or your own!), you are not alone. Knowledge of grammar, however, is an essential component to effective communication, including writing. This course will introduce and review the basic parts of speech, sentence structures, verbals, and modifiers. We will do fun weekly editing activities, exercises from the textbook *Our Mother Tongue*, and sample writing from scripture and classic literature. A variety of classroom activities will be utilized to help students not only grasp the structure of language, but value and even have fun with it!

Note: This course should not be taken in place of a writing course, but it will complement a writing course nicely. Students will have about one hour of homework each week.

*Required Textbook: "Our Mother Tongue, A Guide to English Grammar," by Nancy Wilson (2nd edition preferred, but either can be used)

Language Arts

Introduction to Shakespeare

Teacher: Julie Snell

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/ Hrs a wk:	3+ hrs
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	9-12
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

William Shakespeare is a cultural icon, and no education is complete without understanding his impact on literature, theater, and the English language. In this course, students will explore Shakespeare's world as they read, discuss, and view five of his plays. We will study two tragedies, two comedies, and one history. Additional units will focus on Shakespeare's life and times, and his sonnets. Students should be strong readers as this is a reading-intensive course; however, there will not be any lengthy writing assignments. Class participation and the ability to work cooperatively with classmates is expected. Students will be memorizing famous lines as well as participating in readers' theater. Class will include a trip to the American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse in Staunton in the spring.

Students will need a three-ring binder notebook and should have their own Folger Shakespeare Library paperback editions of each play:

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Romeo and Juliet

Macbeth

Twelfth Night

1 Henry IV

Materials fee covers: curriculum, worksheet packets, in-class activity materials.

Language Arts

Novel Adventures

Teacher: Julie Snell

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-3 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-7
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

*This is Year 3 of a 3-year class cycle which can be taken in any order (new books each year).

In Novel Adventures we will enjoy exploring and discussing a handful of classic and newer novels of different genres. We will learn to recognize plot and character development, identify themes and lessons from the stories, recognize writing styles, answer challenging comprehension questions, learn new vocabulary, apply the stories to our own lives, and participate in lively book discussions. In addition, we will delve into topics related to our books with fun class games, role play, videos, creative writing assignments, student presentations and projects, and other activities related to our books.

Students will need a three-ring binder notebook and their own copies of each of our books to read at home. Audiobooks or reading aloud to your students are fine options as well, especially for reluctant readers (some of our books are more challenging reads than others). A student dictionary at home is recommended for our vocabulary work. I encourage you to order these books before our school year starts. They are listed here in anticipated reading order (a final reading schedule will be handed out at orientation):

Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry

The Castle in the Attic by Elizabeth Winthrop

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (or titled *Alice in Wonderland*) by Lewis Carroll

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

A Wolf Called Wander by Rosanne Parry

The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart

Weekly homework includes: reading assignments (audiobook or as a read aloud if you prefer) and written comprehension questions/vocabulary work. Throughout the year, students will be assigned short writing assignments, creative projects, study for review games, and presentations. Your student may also be assigned occasional video links to watch and/or optional recipes to try at home.

Materials fee covers: curriculum, supplies for in-class activities, games, worksheets/handouts.

Language Arts

Phonics Is Fun

Teacher: Julie Snell

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-1</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This class is for the child who has not yet started learning to read, the child who is beginning to read, or the child who is struggling with early reading skills. The class is not meant to replace your reading curriculum, but to come alongside you to reinforce early reading skills in a fun group environment.

Students will learn and review using a systematic and multisensory structured phonics approach. Through movement, games, songs, storybooks, and hands-on projects and activities we will cover: learning letter names and their sounds, alphabet order, matching lower- and upper-case letters, consonants/vowels, counting syllables, blending sounds together, reading words/phrases/sentences, and handwriting. If the class is ready, we will move on to long vowels and digraphs. We will also work on other areas of literacy such as rhyming, comprehension, vocabulary, and reading fluency.

Each class session will include the following: listening skills (phonological and phonemic awareness), visual and auditory drills, blending sound work, building words (with magnetic letters/writing/other manipulatives), sight words (irregular and regular), reading connected text, games, and teacher read-alouds.

Students will need a backpack to carry home any class projects/worksheets. All art supplies will be supplied in class. There is no homework for this class.

Materials fee covers: curriculum, books, art supplies, flashcards, worksheets, games, toys and manipulatives for class activities, and weekly class rewards.

Language Arts

Storybook Adventures

Teacher: Julie Snell

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-1</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

*This is Year 1 of a 2-year cycle for this class which can be taken in any order (new books each year).

In Storybook Adventures we will enjoy a wide variety of childhood favorites, classics, and recently published storybooks. Our booklist and many of our activities will primarily be taken from the curriculum - Five in a Row, Volumes 1 and 2 by Jane Claire Lambert. We will take two weeks to "explore" and immerse ourselves in each book -- reading aloud the story (sometimes twice), discussing themes and details, singing songs, playing games, learning new vocabulary, reading additional books on related topics, and making art/craft projects. For example, in The Story of Ping by Marjorie Flack, we might learn about ducks, practice using chopsticks, make a Chinese lantern, explore buoyancy, identify China on the map, and learn a few words or a song in Mandarin.

Students will need a backpack to carry home any projects. All supplies will be provided in class. There is no homework for this class. Suggested movies, video links, recipes, or other enrichment ideas may be sent home from time to time.

Materials fee covers: curriculum, all art supplies for hands-on activities and projects, class worksheets, reading journals, games, and weekly class rewards.

Math

Algebra I

Teacher: Michele Johnson

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>4-6 hours</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/inst. approv</i>

Algebra I will be studying all the basics of graphing, factoring and radicals. As a part of this awesome year in Math, we will be learning real numbers, absolute value, and writing formulas. We will also be using linear equations with one and two variables, solving literal equations and how to use and identify parallel and perpendicular lines. We will also be learning a great deal about linear inequalities, polynomials and radicals. It is a great basic class for all future endeavors in math, science, and other fields using real world problems.

Required Texts:

Abeka Algebra I (one with the sailboats on the cover)

Abeka Algebra I Solutions Manual

Abeka Algebra I Quizzes and Tests

Math

Algebra 2

Teacher: Wendy King

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	4-5 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

*This is a 90-minute class.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

This is a high school level Algebra II course. Class time will focus on new concepts (factoring, rational expressions, coordinate geometry, variation, systems of equations, powers, roots, exponents, radicals, imaginary numbers, quadratic equations and more). We will also talk briefly about homework problems. The newest version of the textbook is long, but it has tons of daily review. We will not be going through the entire textbook, but will cover over half (some topics saved for PreCalculus).

Students will be expected to complete problem sets and tests at home, bringing corrected work to class. Take home tests will be given periodically throughout the year. Parents are responsible for ensuring that all assigned work is completed. Teacher will make notes on homework, if needed, and grade tests.

Homework: Will be about 4-5 hours a week. We will cover a lot of material and students will be expected to keep up. Teacher will be available for additional help outside of class and email questions will gladly be taken.

Required:

Abeka Algebra 2 – textbook 2016 edition (skyscraper under construction on cover)

Abeka Algebra 2 – solutions manual 2016 edition

Scientific Calculator or TI graphing calculator– not on phone!

Also needed: Notebook with lots of paper, graph paper helpful, pencils, colored pens (for graphing and checking/correcting)

Math

Fractions

Teacher: Wendy King

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>5-7</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/inst. approv</i>

What is a fraction? When will I use it in real life?

Discover and work with all the parts of fractions. Recognize fractions in real life (measuring, cooking, money ...) and work with them. Topics will include: discover equivalent fractions, switching improper fractions to mixed numbers and the reverse, add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions, organize fractions, short bridge to decimals and percents.

Goal: to be ready to face fractions in the real world and future upper-level math classes. If time permits, we will also touch on probability, which is one of the many branches of math that uses lots of fractions. In class, we will have significant amounts of fraction learning, practice, and games.

Homework (30minutes-1hr)- a worksheet to practice our assignment, math fact review, and optional online and fun assignments.

Math

Geometry - Harold Jacobs

Teacher: Wendy King

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3-4 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

*Prerequisite – Algebra 1

This course is high school level and covers geometry and its associated logic from a Christian viewpoint. The textbook is Geometry Seeing Doing Understanding Third Edition (or 2017 version) by Harold Jacobs.

The author clearly loves geometry and passes along his enthusiasm to the reader. The text begins with a presentation of deductive reasoning and how it is essential for the study of Geometry. Jacobs Geometry then progresses through Euclidean geometry starting with points, lines, planes, angles and polygons. Further material includes area, right triangles, geometric transformations, congruency and similarity, trigonometric functions, and three-dimensional objects. The text finishes with a chapter on non-Euclidean geometry.

Logical skills are developed since proofs of geometric theorems are woven throughout the exercises. Asking “why” is emphasized, and abundant real-world applications are given. Students are expected to be current on homework problems, prepared to discuss the homework, and to have familiarized themselves with the next week’s new concepts.

Completion of this course will greatly aid any student preparing for a standardized test, as geometric concepts factor heavily in PSAT and SAT math sections.

Homework: Accountability is requested through turn in checked and corrected homework. Class time will allow for review of any difficulties students had in the previous week’s work but will focus on teaching and mastering new concepts. Mrs. King requests that parents carefully proctor closed book quizzes and tests, since there is not enough class time to test during the period. Students can anticipate 3-4 hours of homework a week.

Textbook: Geometry Seeing, Doing, Understanding, Third Edition by Harold Jacobs. ISBN 0-7167-4361-2 **OR** the 2017 version of the book. If you get the 2017 version, you also need to get the solutions 2017, but you do not need the teacher’s guide.

Required: Enhanced Teacher's Guide for Geometry Seeing Doing Understanding Third Edition for complete set of solutions and answer keys. ISBN 0-7167-5607-2 **OR** 2017 version solution guide only

Other supplies needed: notebook, pens and pencils, calculator with sine, cosine and tangent functions (this is frequently called a scientific calculator), compass, ruler and protractor.

Math

Math Club K-1

Teacher: Laura Mason

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-1</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Experiencing math in tangible ways is what this class is all about. We will be playing with numbers and allowing the children to discover new ideas through experimentation, which strengthens mathematical thinking. Throughout the year, we will explore different foundational math concepts such as pattern, place value, addition, subtraction, measurement, graphing, money, time, multiplication, division, fractions, geometry, and more. We will use Cuisenaire rods and geoboards extensively throughout the year, progressing sequentially through various math concepts. Our other activities will include a variety of other manipulatives, everyday objects, movement, crafts, and games that will help students grasp these topics on a deeper level and enjoy using math in meaningful ways. We will create interactive math notebooks as a place to keep handy reference tools and review topics. Students will receive seasonal worksheet packets to use in class and finish at home if desired. There will be no homework for this class, but students should follow their own math curriculum at home.

Math

Math Club 2-3

Teacher: Laura Mason

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>2-3</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Experiencing math in tangible ways is what this class is all about. We will be playing with numbers and allowing the children to discover new ideas through experimentation, which strengthens mathematical thinking. Throughout the year, we will explore different foundational math concepts such as pattern, place value, addition, subtraction, measurement, graphing, money, time, multiplication, division, fractions, geometry, and more. We will use Cuisenaire rods and geoboards extensively throughout the year, progressing sequentially through various math concepts. Our other activities will include a variety of other manipulatives, everyday objects, movement, crafts, and games that will help students grasp these topics on a deeper level and enjoy using math in meaningful ways. We will create interactive math notebooks as a place to keep handy reference tools and review topics. Students will receive seasonal worksheet packets to use in class and finish at home if desired. There will be no homework for this class, but students should follow their own math curriculum at home.

Math

Math Club 4-5

Teacher: Chelsie Porterfield

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	4-5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course will encourage students to think more creatively about math and help build their problem-solving skills. Through crafts, games, and competitions your student will review:

- Numerical Operations
- Addition/Subtraction/Multiplication/Division
- Measurement and Geometry
- Number lines
- Fractions
- Greater Than/Less Than
- Prime & Composite Numbers
- Mixed Numbers
- Improper Fractions
- And much more!

This course is designed to be a supplement to your math course at home.

No textbook required

Math

Math Club 6-8

Teacher: Chelsie Porterfield

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-3 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course will encourage students to think more creatively about math and help build their problems-solving skills. Through crafts, games, and competitions your student will review:

- Order of operations
- Factors
- Prime Numbers
- Ratio
- Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying & Dividing Fractions
- Least Common Multiple
- Measuring and Drawing Angles with a Protractor
- Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying & Dividing Decimals
- Finding Percent of Number
- Expanded Notation
- Prime Factorization
- Exponents
- Functions
- Unit Multipliers
- Area of a Triangle
- Using Formulas
- And much more!!

This course is designed to be a supplement to your math course at home.

No textbook required

Math

Pre-Algebra

Teacher: Chelsie Porterfield

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3-4 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-9
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

** Prerequisite – 7th Grade Math

This course will help solidify your student's math foundation and prepare them for Algebra I. Through instruction and homework your student will learn:

- Fractional Part of Number
- Equations: Answers and Solutions
- Reciprocals
- Order of Operations with Division, Fractions, Exponents, Roots
- Evaluations of Exponential Expressions and Radicals
- Ratio and Proportion
- Absolute Value
- Graphing Inequalities
- Multiplication with Scientific Notation
- Equation of a Line
- Graphing a Line
- Rectangular Coordinates
- Trichotomy
- And much more!!

Daily homework and tests will be completed at home.

Textbook: Saxon Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$ 3rd Edition ISBN 1-56577-149-4

Materials

Needed: 2" Binder, Pack of 5 dividers, notebook paper, pencils, graph paper

Math

PreCalculus with Trig

Teacher: Wendy King

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	4-5 hours
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	11+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Geometry

We will spend the year getting you ready for college math and science classes. First agenda, to learn all the helpful uses of a graphing calculator and how it can speed up and help you in all math and science classes. The graphing calculator will be used in most classes, calculator app is not acceptable, because cannot be used on any standardized tests.

This course is a study of higher mathematics. Pre-calculus can be thought of as a continuation of an algebra journey: early Pre-calc is a review of Algebra 2 concepts, while late Pre-calc is a bridge to Calculus. We will learn how to use a valuable tool in math and life - the graphing calculator.

Parents and students who have struggled with math in the past can benefit from this course, where Mrs. King focuses on real-world applications of math. Students at this level have a strong need both to know why they are learning and what the goal of learning is. This course speaks to both those questions throughout the course so that math is less of an isolated subject and more of a multi-disciplinary tool to understand the world around us.

Concepts include:

- Number theory, the number line, real numbers, complex numbers
- Study of real numbers including rational and irrational
- Properties of functions including domain, range, odd, even, one-to-one, periodicity, symmetry, asymptotes, intercepts and zeros.
- Inverse and composite functions
- Families of functions (linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic)
- Graphing, shifting and stretching functions
- Understanding and interpreting functions using algebra, graphic calculators or table of values
- Modeling real world situations using functions and solving word problems
- Conic sections including parabolas, circles, ellipses and hyperbolas
- The Binomial Theorem and Pascal's Triangle
- Trigonometry

Homework: Will be turned in each week. Students can anticipate 4-5 hours of homework per week. Tests are taken at home and must be proctored by a parent, guardian or responsible adult.

Textbook and solution manual will be provided and includes: Stewart, Redlin and Watson's Pre-Calculus Fifth Edition, Mathematics for Calculus Hardback ISBN-10 0534492770 ISBN-13 978-0534492779 Also provided: Student Solutions Manual for Stewart/Redlin/Watson's Precalculus: Mathematics for Calculus, 5th by James Stewart, Lothar Redlin and Saleem Watson (Oct 7, 2005) Paperback ISBN-10: 0534492908 ISBN-13: 978-0534492908

- Graphing Calculator TI 83+ or higher is required

Music

High School Choir
Teacher: Dale Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/30</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

ACTS High School Choir is for students in 9th - 12th grades. Choral students will explore many different genres of choral literature including classical, modern, and sacred music. Rehearsals will start with warm-ups, focusing on good, healthy vocal technique and will engage the students in advanced music reading, vocal blending, two-part harmonizing, and preparing songs for performance. Additionally, students will grow in their understanding of music theory. Note: All choir students will be expected to perform for the ACTS Christmas concert and Spring concert.

Music

Middle School Choir
Teacher: Dale Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/30</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

ACTS Middle School Choir is for students in 6th - 8th grades. Choral students will explore many different genres of choral literature including classical, modern, and sacred music. Rehearsals will start with warm-ups, focusing on good, healthy vocal technique and will engage the students in music reading, vocal blending, two-part harmonizing, and preparing songs for performance. Additionally, students will gain a basic understanding of music theory. Note: All choir students will be expected to perform for the ACTS Christmas concert and Spring concert.

Music

Music K-2

Teacher: Ellen Lemire

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Johann Sebastian Bach said, “The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.” The goal in this class is to experience and make music with this in view! We will begin a typical class by singing a couple of songs chosen from children's songs (generally beginning with an action song!), patriotic songs, holiday songs, hymns, etc. Next, we will spend time learning music that will be performed at short concerts at Christmas time and the end of the school year. During the final portion of each class, we will focus on understanding and making music using rhythm instruments, props such as scarves and the parachute, and our own bodies and through lessons and activities that explore the lives and music of composers and music around the world.

Music

Music 3-5

Teacher: Ellen Lemire

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1/2-1 hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-5</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/instr. approv</i>

Johann Sebastian Bach said, “The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.” The goal in this class is to experience and make music with this in view! We will begin a typical class by singing a couple of songs chosen from children's songs (generally beginning with an action song!), patriotic songs, holiday songs, hymns, etc. Next, we will focus on understanding and making music using rhythm instruments, props such as scarves and the parachute, and our own bodies and through lessons and activities that explore the lives and music of composers and music around the world. During the final portion of each class, we will spend time learning music that will be performed at short concerts at Christmas time and the end of the school year. We will sing at both concerts. We will also learn to play handbells during the first semester and play them in the Christmas concert, and we will learn to play recorders during the second semester and play them in the spring concert.

Physical Education

Boys Team Sports
Teacher: Dave Akers

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$135</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$5</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$2.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>14/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This class is designed for older students who want to enjoy team sports at the rec sports level.

Games we play include:

- flag football
- kickball
- volleyball
- waffle ball
- soccer
- basketball
- dodgeball, and
- ultimate Frisbee.

The goal is to build confidence in athletics in an atmosphere of fellowship and fun.

The materials fee covers sporting equipment not offered at the church.

Physical Education

Physical Education 4-7

Teacher: Renata Miller

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/24</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>4-7</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This class focuses on fun P.E. team games. The goal is to find activities where students move the entire time (sometimes adjusting a game to fit these needs). This is an enjoyable class; all students are encouraged to show good sportsmanship and participate. This class is a safe space to learn new games without the pressure of already being “good” or exceptionally skilled. The class begins with a warm-up, followed by free play (sports equipment always provided), and a team-lead activity. Our class will end with a students’ choice game. We will practice, soccer, flag football, as well as other sports and games.

Physical Education

Physical Education K-3

Teacher: Sherri Burkholder

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$135</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$5)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>12/24</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-3</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Students learn the basics of hand-eye and hand-foot coordination, improve motor skills, increase flexibility, and learn team cooperation. To achieve these goals, students will engage in relays and a variety of energetic games such as Battleship, Bull Dog, Helicopter, and Line Tag. The overall goal is to provide a fun environment and teach students to enjoy physical education. This class is suited for all levels of athletic ability.

Preschool

Playful Learning with Tots

Teacher: Susan Proffitt

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>4/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>Pre-K/ K</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

****Preschool students must be potty trained****

Children learn about nature, seasons, holidays, animals, and science through story time, arts and crafts, dramatic play, activities, songs, and games. Letter and number recognition may be introduced. Large motor activities include outdoor gym equipment and outdoor games. The children will have the opportunity to learn group skills such as sharing, cooperation, listening, and following directions as well as making new friends at ACTS. Natural creativity and love of learning are encouraged. This early childhood class is a great introduction to the ACTS homeschool co-op.

Science

Discovering Design with Chemistry

(9:55 start)

Teacher: Sharon Shelton

Yearly Course Fee:	\$405
Monthly Installment:	\$45
Materials Fee:	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \${{SS}})</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	4 - 6 hrs
Min/Max Students:	8/20
Grade Level:	10+
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	No

*Please note: Class begins at 9:55

This is a high school level chemistry course with a laboratory taught from a Christian viewpoint. Students will work at home through the sixteen chapters of Discovering Design with Chemistry by Dr. Jay Wile.

Class time will be utilized for labs, group discussion, and clarification of concepts. Topics of study will include: classification of matter, atomic structure, spectroscopy, chemical bonding, molecular geometry, physical change, chemical change, stoichiometry, solutions, ideal gases, acid/base chemistry, reduction/oxidation reactions, thermochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, and chemical equilibria.

Students will perform various chemical experiments relating to the topics of study utilizing the scientific method while observing safe laboratory technique. Lab worksheets or lab reports will accompany each experiment.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Homework: Students will be expected to read the chapters, answer “Comprehension Check” questions and chapter reviews at home, as well as prepare lab reports or complete lab worksheets.

Grading: Chapter tests will be administered at home by parent but turned into Mrs. Shelton for grading. Mrs. Shelton will also grade lab reports and lab worksheets.

Books to purchase:

- Discovering Design in Chemistry by Dr. Jay Wile
- Discovering Design in Chemistry Answer Key and Tests Book

Other supplies needed:

- Calculator (Must have EE or exp key for entering numbers in scientific notation)
- 3 ring binder
- Bound lab notebook
- Pencils, blue or black ink pen

Science

Exploring Creation with Biology

Teacher: Jen Merriman

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$50
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	3-5 hours
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	9+
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

*Please note: Class begins at 9:55

Textbook: *Exploring Creation with Biology* Apologia Edition 3

Student Notebook *Exploring Creation with Biology* Apologia Edition

This is a high school level biology course with a laboratory taught from a Christian perspective. It is recommended to take this course the same year the student is taking Algebra I; a prerequisite is PreAlgebra.

Students will read and study the sixteen learning modules at home, and class time will be utilized for labs, group discussion, and clarification of concepts. Topics of study include: life processes, biological classification, the five living kingdoms (Monera, Protista, Fungi, Plantae, Animalia), ecosystems and cycles, origins of life (creation vs. evolution), biochemistry, cell structure/reproduction, and genetics. Students will frequently utilize a microscope, and they will dissect an earthworm, crayfish, perch, frog, and fetal pig.

Homework: Students will be expected to read modules, answer “On Your Own Questions”, complete the study guide, compose lab reports, and complete tests at home. Teacher will grade module tests, lab reports, and will hold students responsible for completing assignments as instructed. There will be occasional special projects throughout the year.

Materials fee covers the microscope rent for the year, slides, dissection kits, and general supplies for weekly labs.

Science

Exploring Creation with Physical
Science

Teacher: Sharon Shelton

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$315</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>4 - 5 hrs</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/inst. approv</i>

This is a middle school level physical science class taught from a Christian viewpoint. (Recommended for Grade 8 – Students should either be in pre-algebra while taking this course or have finished it before this course.) The course covers such topics as the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, weather, structure of the earth, environmentalism, physics of motion, Newton’s Laws, gravity, and astrophysics.

Class time will be used for discussion of key concepts and for experiments. Students will learn how to prepare a basic lab report.

Homework: Students will read modules, answer “On Your Own” questions, prepare lab reports and complete study guides at home.

Grading: Tests will be administered by parents at home and then turned into Mrs. Shelton for grading. Mrs. Shelton will also grade lab reports.

Books to Purchase:

- Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2nd Ed. Please note that this is not the newest Apologia edition but one that should be readily available from a source selling used books.
- Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2nd Ed. Solutions Manual

Other supplies needed:

- 3-ring binder
- lab notebook (bound)
- pencils
- calculator

Science

Exploring Creation with Physics

Teacher: Michele Johnson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	5-6 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

*Please note: Class begins at 9:40

Great job that you are interested in this awesome subject! It is the class most representing many of the real-world problems of today. It is also a preparation for future engineering classes. Algebra I is a prerequisite for this class. Algebra II is also a prerequisite but can be taken concurrently. We will be studying and doing real-world problems in relation to distance and displacement, speed, velocity, acceleration, terminal velocity, vector addition, Newton's Laws, Uniform Motion and Gravity, Work and Energy, Momentum, Periodic Motion, and Waves. We will also be doing Geometric Optics, Coulomb's Law and Electric Field, Electric Potential, Electric Currents and Magnetism. Much of our work will involve experiments.

Required Texts: Exploring Creation with Physics 2nd Edition by Jay Wile AND Exploring Creation with Physics 2nd Edition Solution Manual and Tests

Science

Life Science 7

Teacher: Kathy Pierson

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$315</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1.5-2.0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>7/17</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Students will learn about various life science concepts from the perspective of a Christian Worldview. The Bob Jones University Press life science textbook is written on a 7th grade level but is also appropriate for a 6th grader who is looking for a more in-depth study of science using a daily homework schedule. Students in 8th grade who have an interest in life science, or who are not ready for a high school level class, may take this class to help them prepare for higher level classes. This course is an excellent course to take to prepare for high school biology.

Life science is making observations and decisions about living things. Students will develop the skills necessary to make scientific observations of living things on their own. The course covers such topics as classifying living things, genetics and genetic mutations, plants, osmosis, diffusion, pH of life substances, protein in life substances, introduction to the microscope, human body studies including heart dissection, procedural information concerning hospital tests that are done on the heart while seeing cardiac catheterization equipment and films, animal behavior, fish respiration studies, birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, ecosystems, biotic and abiotic factors, variety of animal dissections including a shark and invertebrates.

Students are required to read the material at home and complete homework questions, and then come to class ready to bring the material alive through the many hands-on experiments and activities. Weekly homework is required but there are no tests or quizzes given in this course. Students will give one report each semester as well as learning the correct procedure for writing up lab reports.

Books to borrow from the teacher:

- BJU Life Science Grade 7 Student Text, Book A and Book B, 3rd edition, ISBN 978-1-59166-474-1 (These will be handed out at orientation in August. If you prefer purchasing your own copy, please let the teacher know.)

Other supplies needed:

3-ring binder with paper and pencils

Science

Science Exploration 3-4 (Year C)

Teacher: Kathy Pierson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hour
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	7/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This science class will consist mostly of ‘hands on’ experiments that will go along with the reading material. Some class time will be review of what was read prior to class in order to tie the reading material together with the hands-on experiments. Once a semester, an exceptional educational video that goes with the topic may be shown. Occasionally, guest teachers will be invited to teach in their area of expertise to enhance learning. An occasional report will be assigned (approximately two to three per year) With an occasional exception, topics will be covered in 4 or 5-week units.

Science Explore topics follow a three-year sequence, listed below, to assure that students have a well-rounded science background from grades K-6. There are no prerequisites for enrolling in either Year A, B, or C. Reading material and experiments vary in each level of study (k, 1-2, 3-4, & 5-6). When a student repeats a year of topics at the next level up, they will build on their knowledge base, study each topic in more depth and be further challenged.

- Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter/Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians
- Year B - Motion/Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism/Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/First Aid, Plants
- Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Sound/Light, Birds

Textbooks: ABeka Science Grade 4, 4th edition, 2008 copyright & ABeka Science Grade 5, 4th edition, 2009 copyright. Please note that it is a requirement for families to use the current edition of these textbooks. The teacher sometimes has books that students can borrow for the school year. Please ask if you need one.

Homework: Students will be expected to read (or to have a parent read to them) the assigned reading prior to class each week. When homework pages are given, these should be brought to class to receive credit for completion. This preparation will assist them in getting the most out of their science classes. The Materials fee (\$50) covers most of the items needed for the weekly labs and copying costs. Students enrolling in January pay a \$30 materials fee. Students should bring to class each week a 3-ring binder with 6 dividers labeled with this year’s topics. Websites are sometimes suggested as an optional activity to enhance learning on a variety of topics.

Handouts: Students will receive a hard copy of their handouts in class. If they become lost, parents can reprint them from the google classroom site.

Science

Science Exploration 5/6 (Year C)

Teacher: Kim Eagle

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$50
(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1.5 hrs
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	5th & 6th grade
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

This science class will be comprised mostly of ‘hands on’ experiments and activities keyed to the reading material. Once a semester, an exceptional educational video may be shown and discussed. Specially qualified guest speakers may also be invited to share their area of expertise to enhance our learning. Several reports or projects may be assigned, and oral presentations will be expected. Class activities will be summarized and enriched through “foldable” handouts and models which will be assembled into Lap Books. A computer with internet access is strongly recommended for this course.

Science Explore topics follow a three-year sequence, listed below, to assure that students have a well-rounded science background from grades K-6. There are no pre-requisites for enrolling in Year A, B, or C. Reading material and experiments vary in each level of study (k, 1-2, 3-4, & 5-6). When a student repeats a year of topics at the next level up, they will build on their knowledge base, study each topic in more depth and be further challenged.

- Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter/Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians
- Year B - Motion/Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism/Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/First Aid, Plants
- Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Sound/Light, Birds

Homework: Students will be expected to read the designated material from the text(s) prior to each class, and complete written exercises as assigned in order to get the most out of their science classes. Homework will be checked in class for completion but not for accuracy as parents should correct all work prior to class. Tests are optional but may be used by parents as additional reviews or evaluations.

Textbooks: (Teacher has several copies to loan on a first come, first serve basis)

- ABeka 5th grade science: Investigating God’s World (1990 or newer editions)
- ABeka 6th grade science: Observing God’s World (1991 or newer editions)
- ABeka 7th grade science: Science: Order and Design (2010 or other edition)

Some units require reading from internet sources or reading from non-textbook sources, which are provided by the instructor. To avoid unnecessary spending, students may be asked to bring items from home. Materials fee covers most of the items needed for the weekly labs, Lap Book supplies and copying costs. Students should bring a notebook with a 3-ring binder with them to class each week along with textbook, pencil, and colored pencils. Binder should include a divider labeled for each topic.

Science

K-2 Science – Year C

Teacher: Jen Merriman

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hr
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This action-packed class will feature ‘hands on’ learning experiences for K-2 students. Through demonstrations, model making, and experimentation, students will grasp scientific principles as the teacher highlights important concepts. Scientific skills of observing, sequencing, classifying, measuring, questioning, predicting, and experimenting will be emphasized. Once a semester, an exceptional educational video that goes with the topic may be shown. An occasional report will be assigned (approximately two to three per year).

Science Explore topics follow a three-year sequence, listed below, to assure that students have a well-rounded science background from grades K-6. There are no prerequisites for enrolling in either Year A, B, or C. Reading material and experiments vary in each level of study (K-2, 3-4, & 5-6). When a student repeats a year of topics at the next level up, they will build on their knowledge base, study each topic in more depth and be further challenged.

- Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter/Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians
- Year B – Motion/Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism/Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/First Aid, Plants
- Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Sound/Light, Birds

Homework: Students will need to read (or have a parent read to them) pertinent library books prior to class time. This preparation will help to maximize the learning experience. When homework pages are given, these should be completed as well.

Guest Speakers will occasionally be invited to teach in their area of expertise to enhance learning.

Materials fee covers most of the items needed for the weekly labs and copying costs. The \$50 fee covers both semesters. Occasionally, to avoid unnecessary spending, students may be asked to bring items from home.

Additional items to purchase: A 3-ring binder with dividers for each topic (order as listed above) to be brought each week

*Students may use books from the library and an optional text

**No minimum age exceptions permitted

Study Hall

Study Hall (Fall & Spring)

Teacher: TBD

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$90</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$n/a</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$0</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

*Tuition will be paid in one payment for the fall and spring semester. Fall semester payment will be \$40 and spring semester payment will be \$50. Tuition for Study Hall may NOT be paid in monthly installments.

Attendance in the Study Hall is scheduled through HORAS when other class scheduling takes place. This enables ACTS, Study Hall Supervisors, and service parents to ensure the safety of students in study hall.

Study Hall attendance should be scheduled by semester – for example, a student who will be in Study Hall during third period for the entire year should schedule both the fall and spring semesters of Study Hall for third period.

Students who have not scheduled to be in the Study Hall in the online HORAS scheduling system will not be permitted to be in Study Hall. Those students enrolled in Study Hall should arrive at the start of the period in which they are enrolled (not early or late) and remain in Study Hall for the entire period – not leaving early. (Study Hall is only for students who are enrolled in other ACTS classes.)

Enrollment in Study Hall is limited to two (combined) periods. Officer approval is needed for enrollment in additional periods.

Fees for Study Hall are to fund Study Hall supervisory positions and are non-refundable.

Students utilizing Study Hall must understand that Study Hall is meant for quiet study. Therefore, talking/visiting with friends is not permitted in Study Hall.

Laptops are allowed.

Meet the Teachers

Dave Akers

Mr. Akers is an Army veteran and has worked for both law enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. In 2016, he left this work to pursue his calling as a full time pastor. He currently pastors in Gordonsville, VA and is completing his studies at seminary.

Mallory Artusio

Mallory is a joyful mom to two wonderful kids (David and Sarah). She received a Bachelor of Arts from UVA in Spanish and Government, and she currently serves as a Program Coordinator at the University. Mallory has been teaching Spanish as a private tutor for 10 years, and she has traveled to Argentina, Portugal, and Spain for study and service. Mallory enjoys teaching fitness, being outside, and creativity.

Michelle Bentzen

Michelle Bentzen has loved art from the first coloring contest she won at the local drug store. Her favorite class was Art, and she can still remember the names of those special teachers that inspired her career. Michelle studied Interior Design and Art History at the University of Alabama. She then attended SCAD, Savannah College of Art and Design, for graduate work in Product Design. She has practiced Commercial Interior Design in the Atlanta and DC Metro area with hospitality projects up and down the east coast. Michelle's projects now focus on Sustainability and Historic Preservation. Michelle has two children that attend ACTS. You'll find their family on the softball/baseball field, practicing violin, or at the Kung Fu kwoon. She looks forward to being creative and exploring our beautiful world through art.

Edlira Brubaker

Mrs. Brubaker has a Master's Degree in French Language. She has taught French at an International Christian School in Tirana, Albania for 12 years. She has taught for several years IGCSE and AP French course.

Kim Buckley

Kim Buckley has lived in VA for the last 15 years with her husband, Rocky, and 3 children. She homeschooled her 2 older children all the way through and both of them have already graduated and her youngest is still in high school and is still homeschooling and at ACTS where they have been members for the last 15 years. Kim has a Bachelor's degree in education with a concentration in Sociology from William Paterson University and taught for years in the younger grades. She and her husband have had their own business for the past 20+ years. She loves working with middle

schoolers and high schoolers and also enjoys spending time with her family and friends, scrapbooking, exercising and reading.

Sherri Burkholder

Mrs. Burkholder and her husband, Stacey have three children (two which have graduated high school). She homeschooled for over 12 years. Before beginning her homeschool career she worked at Afton Christian School for 4 years where she was responsible for grades 4-8th in various subjects. Her family currently lives in Waynesboro, VA. They are very active in their church where her husband is the associate pastor. She has taught PE K-3 for 10 years and enjoys making physical education fun.

Kim Eagle

Kim is a wife to Todd and a mother to five awesome kids (John, Grant, Katie, Eric, and Ellie). She has a Bachelor of Science from VCU; a Master of Science from Catholic University; and a Post-Masters from Emory University. She is a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and worked for sixteen years in several pediatric hospitals and clinics. Her proudest and most accomplished job has been homeschooling her five children since 1999. Four of her children have graduated from universities in Texas and California, and her youngest is a student at ACTS. She loves science and studying God's creation with others.

Dale Fields

Originally from Louisville, Kentucky, Dale moved to Charlottesville in 2017 to join the staff at First Baptist Park Street. He currently serves as the Associate Pastor at First Baptist and has served in pastoral ministry since 2001. Dale has been married to his wife Hannah for 18 years and has four children: Grace (17), Micah (15), Sam (14), and Annie (12). He holds a Bachelor of Science in Religion from Liberty University and is completing a Master of Christian Education from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary this year. Dale has been a guest speaker at multiple events held by the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia. Additionally, he has taught various bible and music courses in private Christian schools both in Kentucky and Virginia. In his free time, Dale enjoys spending time with family, playing the piano and mandolin, reading a variety of books, and cheering on the Kentucky Wildcats.

Dan Gritsko

Dan has been a licensed Washington, D.C. tour guide since 1992. His focus is working with Jr. and Sr. high school groups, leading and planning Christian history tours of Washington, D.C and other historical cities on the East Coast. He has a passion for helping young people to understand history and think through and confidently address the issues of the day from a Biblical perspective. He has taught at ACTS since 2005. He has a B.A. from West Virginia University in Political Science and

International Studies as well as an M.A. in Public Administration. He currently works at Worldstrides in Charlottesville and is on the town council of Scottsville. He and his wife, Sunny, have six children and seven grandchildren. They began homeschooling in 1994.

Sunny Gritsko

Sunny believes in home schooling because it helps parents to nurture God's call in the lives of their kids, and to have a lot of fun together as a family. Some of her best and most enjoyable homeschooling experiences over the years have been co-opping with other families. She has a bachelor's degree in graphic design from West Virginia University. She has experience in commercial art as well as teaching art since 1997. She and her husband Dan have six children: Daniel, Hannah, Caleb, Esther, Rachel, and John. They began homeschooling in 1994 and are currently empty nesters enjoying their seven grandchildren, as well as continuing to be involved in the homeschool community.

Kelly Gunther

After graduating, worked for 5 years as a nurse before having my 6 children. We began homeschooling when my oldest started kindergarten and have been ever since. I love reading and learning about history, as well as knitting, camping, and swimming in the ocean.

Chelsea Hall

Chelsea Hall is a mom to four kids (Silas, 12, Selah, 9, Esther, 4, and Ellie 3) and wife to Benji, the student pastor at FBC. She loves doing ministry alongside her husband and is passionate about ministry to teen girls. Chelsea earned her Bachelor's degree in Secondary Math Education and has worked as a classroom teacher in middle school math, science, and STEM for 13 years. She also has a minor in New Testament. When she's not spending time with her family she loves coffee dates with friends, working out at the gym and exploring historic Virginia sites!

Bethany Hamner

Bethany and her family have been part of ACTS since 2013. She has home-schooled her two children, MariKaye and Will for 10 years. During her time at ACTS, she has loved serving as an assistant in many classrooms. She attended Piedmont Virginia Community College, where she took accounting and business courses. In addition to home-schooling, she works part-time at the public library in Fluvanna. She loves teaching children and is looking forward to teaching at ACTS this year.

Carol Henderson

Carol taught her 5 now-grown children for over 25 years as a homeschooling mom. She still loves to teach and is thankful for the opportunity to continue sharing her love of learning with the children at ACTS. During her homeschooling years, she began the website ABookInTime.com as a resource for good history reading books and crafts, and currently maintains a geography website at

LetsGoGeography.com. She has a B.S. from Liberty University, and loves to create geography & history projects for kids. She also enjoys being outdoors, gardening, raising chickens, hiking, and spending time with her family.

Mike Henderson

Mike has a BA in Bible, an MA in Bible & Ancient Languages, & a Master of Divinity degree. He served as a senior pastor for 32 years and recently retired from full-time ministry. Mike has a passion for teaching and is grateful for the opportunity to do so both here at ACTS and as a guest speaker in various churches. Mike took courses in Economics, Accounting, & Taxation in college, as well as other financial courses over the years, including H&R Block & Dave Ramsey. He is a Dave Ramsey Certified Financial Coach and has led multiple financial seminars.

Michele Johnson

Mrs. Johnson graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Math and Physics degree. At the same time, she was in Navy ROTC at the University of Michigan earning a minor in Military science. She also earned a Masters in Information Systems and Telecommunications from Johns Hopkins University. After spending 8 years active duty in the Navy and 5 in the Naval Reserves, she decided to hang up her military career for homeschooling. Her two older girls have graduated from some college (one with a Masters/CPA and one at VCU), one son plans to attend PVCC next year, and her youngest is still in high school. She has been directing Classical Conversations for the past 14 years (6 years as a Challenge II Director tutoring 6 high school level courses). You will often hear Mrs. Johnson say, "Math is fun!" Okay, it might not be fun for everyone as you learn it but it does become fun when you start to figure things out.-) Mrs. Johnson hopes students will truly discover how joyful it is to learn Algebra I and Physics especially as they see the concepts come alive.

Wendy King

Wendy King loves math and German! She especially enjoys helping students understand math. Mrs. King has a BS in Mathematics and German and has been teaching math at ACTS for about 10 years. She loves introducing new math topics and seeing the students grow each year. Mrs. King fell in love with German in high school, lived there for a little over 3 years, has had German exchange students, and loves speaking and reading German. She homeschools her children, although three have graduated and are at the university.

Ellen Lemire

Ellen Lemire majored in elementary education and minored in music at West Virginia Wesleyan College, with a focus in piano, also singing in choirs and playing brass instruments in bands. Before having her own children, Ellen primarily taught preschool and music, both group and private lessons to students from elementary age through adult. She now enjoys homeschooling her own children

and is thankful for the opportunity to teach them about God and His kingdom. Samuel is now in college, and Anna, Chloe, Abigail, and Daniel continue to homeschool. She is happy to also have the opportunity to work with the children in ACTS music classes and to share her love of God's gift of music!

Thomas Marsh

Thomas Marsh is a classical sculptor (www.thomasmarshsculptor.net) who has created many public monuments, and has works in collections throughout the United States and in Europe. Noted works include the statue in the Santa Cruz, CA surfing monument, John the Baptist at Mission San Juan Bautista, CA, The portal sculpture of the high rise at 235 Pine Street in San Francisco, the “Goddess of Democracy” in San Francisco’s Chinatown, and, as concept designer and sculptor, the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington, DC. In recent years he has focused on religious sculptures, with works in churches in Virginia, Florida, Texas, and New York City. In May, 2022, Thomas Marsh received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters title from San Francisco’s Academy of Art University. Dr. Marsh has been teaching at ACTS since 2012.

Laura Mason

Laura Mason has a passion for teaching and working with children. She is a homeschool graduate and homeschools her seven children (ages 2-12). She has worked as an editor and research assistant for the nonprofits China Institute and Global China Center, preparing many of their books and articles for publication. She also participated in researching and writing the Biographical Dictionary of Chinese Christianity. For a number of years, she was a flute teacher and elementary art teacher, as well. Laura loves to be creative, think outside the box, and learn new things.

Dave Merriman

David Merriman earned a degree in Political Science Teaching Option from North Carolina State University and was a NC Teaching Fellow Scholar. During his six years teaching in Durham Public Schools he helped organize a program for at-risk students and was selected Teacher of the year for Chewning Middle School. David enjoys helping students see history and government through different lights; especially in the light of God’s master plan.

Jennifer Merriman

Jen Merriman earned her BS in Biology from UNC-Chapel Hill. At the US EPA, she worked on the Biologically Based Dose Response Team creating mathematical models to assess risk and purification of cardiac proteins, mono and polyclonal antibodies for Fortron Bio Science. Jen and Dave Merriman (history and government teacher at ACTS) have been performing together since 1991. They have two children, Sarah Lindsay (a home school high school graduate currently a theater and vocal performance major at Radford University), and Hudson, who is enrolled at ACTS. As a home educator, Mrs. Merriman has led Foundations or Essentials classes for the Classical

Conversations Community of Charlottesville since 2012. Additionally, Mrs. Merriman leads group worship for VBS and directs children's musicals at Effort Baptist Church in Palmyra. In 2020, Mrs. Merriman joined the ACTS Science team teaching Biology and K-2 Science. In 2023, Shakespeare for Middle School and Elementary Drama round out her academic offerings.

Renata Miller

Renata Miller is a homeschooling mom to four! Renata grew up in Brazil, and learned very early on to love soccer! She has always loved sports and enjoyed playing soccer and volleyball. She's also a yoga instructor. Renata recently started her own baking business, as well! She was awarded a scholarship to bake at a commercial kitchen with the hope of expanding her business. Renata is excited to teach at ACTS! She hopes to focus on sportsmanship and kindness, and she believes everyone should always practice the golden rule! She also wants to be a mentor and teacher to those who are interested in starting their own business! Renata hopes she can inspire and motivate her students to reach their full potential!

Miriam Nissley

Mrs. Nissley and her husband, Tim, have five children (Matt, Ben, David, Maria, & Anna) and home-schooled from 1990-2014. She has taught at ACTS since 2003, and has experience teaching in children's church, Sunday School, in-home daycare & pre-school settings. In 2015, Mrs. Nissley introduced the "American Girls Rock!" course (combination of history & crafts) which allows girls to explore the time periods of the AG historical dolls. She has a passion for teaching, supporting home-school families and praying for her students.

Sarah Otis

Raising and homeschooling my four children has been one of my greatest joys! My oldest is married, two are in college and one is being home-schooled. I love all things creative and finding beauty in daily life. My girls and I have enjoyed many spontaneous painting parties around the kitchen table. We also love bringing our art supplies along on picnics so we can capture the beauty around us. I am excited to teach my students to enjoy painting and being creative. I am so thankful to God for the opportunity of homeschooling and being at ACTS.

Janice Philbrick

After homeschooling her four (now grown) children and helping to administer a homeschool tutorial program in North Carolina, Janice is happy that involvement with the homeschool community can continue here in Virginia with her grandchildren and ACTS. Janice received her BA from a Christian liberal arts college in Massachusetts. As a Suzuki piano teacher, she has enjoyed the ongoing learning opportunities available to her and has completed all levels of teacher training through the Suzuki Association of the Americas. Since her recent move to Virginia, she has continued her association with Triangle Music School in Durham, North Carolina, where she holds

monthly in-person and group lessons. She continues to teach her North Carolina students online, while growing her studio here in Virginia.

Kathy Pierson

Kathy has a B.S. in Biology from Geneva College, and graduated from the Cardiovascular technology program at The Inova Heart & Vascular Institute in Fairfax, VA. She worked for ten years in a cardiac catheterization lab prior to having children. She has been teaching at ACTS since 2003 and at CHESSIE since 2006. Kathy and her husband Tom, have three sons (Josh, Zach, & Nathaniel) and homeschooled from 1994- 2014. She and her family are members of Trinity PCA Church.

Chelsie Porterfield

Chelsie is a homeschooling mom to her daughter, Grace. Since discovering her love for Algebra in high school, math has been her passion. She previously taught Middle School Math and Algebra I at Southside Homeschool Co-op in Powhatan. She has a certificate in bookkeeping and is currently working on her Bachelor's degree in Education.

Lily Proffitt

I am a mother of 3 (a 4-year-old, 2-year-old, and a newborn). I grew up with an older sister, and when I got married, I gained an older brother and a younger sister. Crochet has been a faithful friend my whole life and was taught to me by my grandma. I hope to share my love of this art with young people who can enjoy it and pass it on to others.

Susan Proffitt

Susan graduated from Piedmont Virginia Community College with an A.S. in Education and Mary Baldwin College with a B.A. in English and a teaching certificate in elementary education. She taught 3rd- 5th grades at Northside Christian School in Charlottesville for nine years and then was a home daycare provider for nine years. Susan and her husband, David, began homeschooling in 2003, and the youngest of their three children graduated in 2021. Susan looks forward to helping with her grandchildren in their homeschooling journey.

Robin Rakow

Robin Rakow graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelors of Arts in English Literature and Interdisciplinary Studies, as well as a Masters in Elementary Education. Robin taught in Madison County for nearly 10 years before “retiring” to be a stay-at-home mom after the birth of

her oldest daughter, Katherine. Robin ran an at-home daycare for teachers' children for a few years until the family grew a little more with the birth of Hannah and then Abbie. She's homeschooled since 2013 and enjoys spending time with her family (including her Math teacher hubby, Ryan), gardening, a good cup of coffee or tea, time with friends, cooking, art, writing, and serving her community.

Venita Richmond

Teaching is Venita's passion. She has a M.Ed. in education from The Ohio State University and believes that learning should never be boring. She has homeschooled four children (one is currently a senior, one is in college, and two are college graduates).

Lindsay Sauer

Lindsay Sauer never thought she'd be homeschooling, but has found it to be one of the greatest joys of her life to leave the professional world and learn alongside her two boys. One of her favorite parts of homeschooling is creating an environment where her boys are able to independently explore God's creation. She was a team manager for her boys' Destination Imagination teams for two seasons previously where she witnessed the greatness that can come out of a group of energetic boys stuck in a room together with a bunch of problems. She is so excited to offer the Boys Destination Imagination courses to the ACTS community.

Sharon Shelton

Sharon Shelton has an M.S. degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from Mississippi State University and worked for several years at the Diagnostic DNA lab of UVA hospital. Sharon and her husband, Brian, have homeschooled their 4 children, Mary, Abigail, Robert, and John. Sharon has been teaching science classes for homeschoolers for 15 years and especially enjoys high school level courses. She also has fun leading science activities at CHESSIE summer science camps.

Joseph Sigalas

Joseph Sigalas, PhD, has been teaching at ACTS for more than 5 years. Aside from teaching at ACTS, he is a proposal writing professional. Previously, he was a professor at Truett-McConnell University and has taught at the University of Georgia and Gainesville College.

Susan Sigalas

Susan Sigalas has a PhD in English from the University of Georgia and has been teaching writing and literature to college students for over twenty years. Susan and her husband, Joseph, homeschooled their now-grown children, Ginny, Meg, and Gwen, and have been members of ACTS since 2007.

Julie Snell

Julie Snell and her husband, John, have homeschooled their seven children for 22 years and have attended ACTS for most of those years. Julie holds BS degrees in Special Education (Miami U) and Nursing (UVA), and an M.Ed. in Speech-Language Pathology (UVA) - and has worked with children in all three fields. She has special interests in children's literature, the reading process, and helping struggling and dyslexic readers. The Snells attend CrossLife Community Church.

Autumn Temple

Autumn began teaching at ACTS in 2005. As a homeschool graduate, she felt especially blessed to begin a second-generation journey of homeschooling with her own children in 2005. American Sign Language is Autumn's second language, she's enjoyed using this language to help translate church services and ministry events and live theatre. Autumn worked as an educational translator for the mainstreamed deaf students of Bradley Co. Highschool of Cleveland, Tenn., Albemarle County Schools, Charlottesville City Schools and Piedmont Va. Community College.

Carlee Whitlock

My name is Carlee Whitlock. I am an ACTS alumna, graduating in 2016. Since then, I've been working on my degree from Piedmont Virginia Community College, saving money for a cross-country road trip, and of course, sewing. This will be my second-year teaching at ACTS; however, I have been sewing for eight years, learning from teachers and through trial and error. I have a particular interest in historic and vintage clothing. My love for sewing - and now teaching - has grown every year.

Karin Wilcox

Born and raised in Germany, Karin still feels closely connected to her country and culture that she likes to share with students. She received her high school diploma in Germany and continued her education in the US after marrying her husband in 2004. She developed an interest in linguistics early on and graduated with a BA from Liberty University in Teaching English as a Second language. Karin has homeschooled her three children since 2012.

Martha Young

Mrs. Young was born and raised in Colombia, South America. She speaks Spanish and English fluently, as she has lived in the United States since 1993. She is married to Jim, and has two children, Christopher, and Katherine.