



the messenger

a river of hope in a thirsty land

October 2025

LET THE WHOLE EARTH BE FILLED
WITH HIS *Glory* Psalm 72:19



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Covenant Participation,

I praise King Jesus for the way that you as Candies Creek are investing in one another. I hear how you are sharing the gospel, practicing biblical counseling, contributing financially to people heading overseas, etc.

Trunk r Treat is an awesome church wide event with a desire for community impact. Please be in prayer for this event and for our daily lives to impact those around us.

We are so blessed by your prayers and concerns for Heather's health. Her pacemaker is helping her heart stay in rhythm, but it is still uncomfortable. The hematoma is much better, but she does have chronic pericarditis. We are still trusting the Lord, praying and modifying life as necessary.

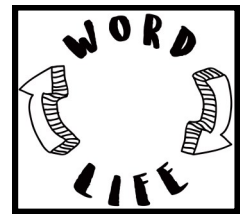
We will continue to walk through the Church Covenant and Covenant Statement at the end of each worship service this year. The Covenant Statement phrases start with "I will" and are Biblical membership expectations as goals to be attained in the pursuit of godliness." Covenant Statement 8: I will pray for the fulfillment of, and participate in the accomplishment of, the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8). Church Covenant H: We will, having been commissioned by Christ to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything that Christ has commanded us, commit ourselves by His grace and the authority of Christ and the empowerment of His Holy Spirit to be Christ's witnesses in our Jerusalem, in all our Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth for the eternal glory of our great God. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8)

I pray that King Jesus will lay His heart over yours and grant you a spectacular view of how He intends for Candies Creek to unite and work together as we move toward our 200th anniversary.

***Living as part of the Body of Christ,
Pastor Stan***

Student Ministry

Wednesdays
@ 6:15 pm



Happy Fall everyone!

Fall is my favorite season for many reasons. The weather is a bit chillier, football is on, and the colors of nature are a beautiful testament to our Creator. It is the time during which countless generations have celebrated harvest. In the same way that Christ turns fishers of fish into fishers of men, he has transformed us from simply harvesters of the work of our hands, into harvesters of a spiritual harvest. I praise God that Candies Creek has a rich spiritual harvest to celebrate!

We reap spiritual harvest when we make an effort to love and know others. When we make an effort to speak the truth in love to others. When we make an effort to commit to applying the word to life until it becomes a lifestyle along with others. Wherever you are in life, student, parent, 8 year old, 80 year old, you have a harvest to tend to. In Matthew 9:37, Jesus tells his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." In John 4:35 he proclaims, "The fields are ripe for harvest!" Our fields (Charleston/Cleveland, Tennessee, U.S, the nations) are ripe for harvest! "Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field." (Matt. 9:38)

As we enjoy this Fall season, be reminded that we are workers in God's harvest. God, who has called us to him not for the benefit of ourselves but for His glory and the good of others (1 Cor. 10:31-33), has called us to be workers in His harvest. Be encouraged that the Lord of the harvest is with you, and go and get to work.

Grace and peace,

Jed Cole

NOTABLE DATES THIS MONTH:

10/5 - COLLEGE/YOUNG ADULT NIGHT @ DAVIS'

10/8 - NO LIFE122 (FALL BREAK)

10/19 - STUDENT CONNECT NIGHT @ STEINLE'S

10/26 - TRUNK OR TREAT (MAKE A TRUNK W/ COMMUNITY GROUPS!)

10/29 - HARVEST NIGHT



Ministries are in full gear! Sunday School, Nursery, Children's Church, AWANA, Choir, and Kid's Precept if you have questions, we'd love to help



2025-2026

AWANA

- ♦ October 1 AWANA
- ♦ October 8 No AWANA (Fall Break)
- ♦ October 9 Park Hopping! Please RSVP Christy
- ♦ October 15 AWANA
- ♦ October 22 AWANA



Children's Church

- ♦ CHILDREN'S CHURCH: K-4th grades
- ♦ Oct 5-19th SkyBridge Showdown: The Great Building Projects of the Bible
- ♦ October 12th DON'T MISS, we will be packing for OCC with the Shoebox Ministry in both 8 & 10:30 am service.
- ♦ No C4 on Oct 26th...Children's choir will be in both services.
- ♦ Nov 2, 9, 16th Roanoke Jones: Mysteries of the Bible
- ♦ Nov 16th is our final C4 of the semester.

TRUNK R TREAT

October 26th 4-6 pm in the StuB parking area

INVITE your friends, neighbors, relatives, strangers, etc

Trunk r Treat is more than candy, its inviting our neighbors to the church campus to visit, enjoy a meal, play some games, meet some new friends and introduce them to the church family!

How to get involved? Donate candy (honestly, it's expensive and we will spread it out to many different trunks to lighten the cost). Host a Trunk! You don't have to be fancy, you do need to be friendly! Host a game or just hand out candy and show some hospitality!

Sign up with Mrs. Christy so I can save you a parking spot. 423-790-2674

Children's Choir

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

October 26th Children's Choir will lead worship in both 8 & 10:30 am services with no practice that evening as it is Trunk r Treat!

Living Water (John 4 Getty Hymn) Undivided Heart (Psalm 86) and Our God is An Awesome God! (in ASL)

WANTED: A behind the scenes team to help with set creation for our 2026 Easter children's program "Pilgrim's Progress" Check with Christy Johns, Meagan Allen or Laura Dye for more questions.

KIDS PRECEPT

We will be completing the book of John on October 5th. This has been an intense 3 part study of 21 chapters in the Gospel.

Kids Precept will resume in the Spring 2026 with a 2 Timothy Becoming God's Champion



CCA Epistola

What went wrong?

... "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

Acts 5:28-29

Last month's *Epistola* argued that the purpose of education is to pass from one generation to the next a *paideia*, a Greek word that means something like "worldview" or "way of life." Given the clear biblical requirement that we pass along a fully Christian *paideia*, and given the degree to which so much of our society is living outside of that worldview, we closed with a question: **How has our process of education failed to pass on a Christian *paideia*?**

I don't want to risk committing a logical fallacy, so let's begin by asking *if* our educational system has failed. The answer here is a clear, emphatic, and indisputable "yes." I'm sure we can all by now come up with dozens of egregious examples in which American schools have taught things contrary to Christian principles, but these are in a sense the least troublesome, because they are so obvious. Far more dangerous are the small, subtle changes that slowly move our schooling – and therefore our society – farther and farther from the Christian ideal.

Look, for instance, at a modern history textbook – maybe the one your children or grandchildren are reading. Does it annotate dates using AD (Anno Domini – Latin for "in the year of our Lord") and BC (before Christ) or BCE (before the common era) and CE (common era). More than likely it's the latter. This change may seem small, but it is nothing less than a real and deliberate attempt to

remove Christ from his proper place as the axis about which all history turns.

Will such a change shatter our children's faith? No, of course not, but that's not the point. The real danger is the cumulative effect of thousands upon thousands of seemingly inconsequential changes like this one, no single one of them worth the effort to fight, that slowly shift our cultural assumptions to the point that the more shocking episodes I referred to above are even conceivable.

News

Join the Parent Council!

The parent council is asking for additional participation. If interested, please contact Briana Cornell at parentcouncil@candiescreekacademy.com or 601-347-7567.

Upcoming Dates

Oct 3 - End of first quarter

Oct 6-10 - Fall Break

Oct 17 - Report cards issued

Oct 26 - Trunk R Treat

Oct 31 - Jeans day

So how did this all begin? Pete Hegseth, in his book, *The Battle for the American Mind*, details at some length the growth of the progressive school movement from the dream of outsiders and radicals in the mid-nineteenth century to the governing force of education in the United States a century later. The essential story he relates is how a series of organizations and individuals deliberately changed the goal of education from its classical focus teaching students how to live well as citizens of Christ's Kingdom, to a system focused primarily on pragmatic skills and vocational training.

"But what," you might ask, "is wrong with schools preparing students for a job?" And here is where we must be clear in distinguishing between the *purpose* of education and its *benefits*. The classically trained student will certainly have the skills and knowledge to earn a living, but that is merely a byproduct – a benefit – of its true objective: *To teach the student how to live well.*

The progressive model, by contrast, seeks nothing higher than to teach the student how to achieve some measure of worldly success. Add to this already fatal flaw the modern requirement that a government school remain 'neutral' in questions of religion and you have a system of education that is structurally incapable of teaching basic truths – or even teaching that there is such a thing as truth. As C.S. Lewis wrote, "Aim at heaven and you will get the world thrown in. Aim at earth and you get neither."

Now I must be careful to clarify my assertions here: I am not suggesting that it is impossible to go to a government school and remain, or become, a Christian. Nor am I suggesting that to participate in the public school system is somehow evil – I have known enough faithful, missional, committed Christian public school teachers to render any such claim absurd. Rather, I am arguing that the progressive model of public schooling, by deliberately focusing on material, this-worldly benefit, has led us to – *and could only ever have led us to* – the state we find ourselves in today, where the average American student will be taught that there is no such thing as absolute truth, only 'your truth,' with all the moral horrors that this fundamental error has and will continue to produce.

Although all this might tempt us to despair, that is not an option God permits us. So instead we must have faith, and praise God, for in his mercy he has given us the example of previous generations of faithful Christians who sought to reshape their civilization in Christ's holy image, producing the educational system that we today call the classical Christian model. Which brings us to our question for next month: **What is classical Christian education, and how does it differ from the progressive model?**

Soli Deo Gloria

Justin Goss

Headmaster

Candies Creek Academy

Being Bold

"For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before His eyes, and He is the One to whom we are accountable. So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for He faced all of the same testings we do, yet He did not sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive His mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most."

Hebrews 4:12-16 (NLT)

What a gift we have in prayer! Through the blood of Jesus Christ our Savior, we have direct access to our Creator, Redeemer, Father. What a humbling thought to know He cares enough for us to give us the privilege of direct communication with Him. His word speaks to us, teaches us, admonishes us, corrects us, guides us, and blesses us because it is intended for our good. And we may be certain that He hears us when we bow to Him in prayer.

Oswald Chambers, in Prayer: A Holy Occupation, encourages "reckless belief" when we pray: *"So many of us limit our praying because we are not reckless in our confidence in God. In the eyes of those who do not know God, it is madness to trust Him, but when we pray in the Holy Spirit we begin to realize the resources of God, that He is our perfect heavenly Father, and we are His children."*

Realizing this should elicit both continual joy and ceaseless prayer. Nineteenth century pastor C.H. Spurgeon expounded on the Apostle Paul's advice to the Thessalonian church in this way: *"The more we pray, the more we rejoice. Prayer gives a channel to the pent-up sorrows of the soul; they flow away and in their place streams of sacred delight pour into the heart. At the same time the more rejoicing, the more praying. When the heart is in a quiet condition and full of joy in the Lord then also will it be sure to draw near to the Lord in worship. Holy joy and prayer act and react on each other... When we joy in God for what we have and believingly pray to Him for more, then our souls thank Him both in the enjoyment of what we have and in the prospect of what is yet to come."*

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in everything; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Brothers and sisters in Christ, may we not be negligent in our communication with the Lord; may we not be lazy in the work of interceding for others; may we not be timid about approaching the throne of grace. But may we faithfully embrace the practice of being bold in our witness, empowered by our confidence in prayer.

*"For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline."
2 Timothy 1:7*

PRAY!!

From Local to Global Disciple-Making



J & B family, North Africa

PRAY for these specific requests: (1) The preparation of ourselves and the girls to transition to North Africa in 2026. (2) For the Lord to guide us in looking for more prayer partners and financial partnerships. (3) For the visa process to be without hindrance for us and other workers trying to gain entry. (4) For persecuted brothers and sisters especially in the southern region where community protests and violence continue toward those believers that have publicly professed faith in Jesus. (5) For a co-worker from Bangladesh working in our North African country. While back home in Bangladesh, working on his visa renewal to return, he was severely beaten near death by family members because of his faith, breaking multiple bones. Pray that he heals quickly, continuing to witness his faith to his family, and that he will get his visa quickly to return to North Africa.

The H family, Southeast Asia

They will soon return to their country after experiencing God's faithful supply and provision of the support they needed to raise!! They have purchased their airline tickets and will depart very soon. They will visit family in another state enroute to the place of the Lord's calling. There is always time for you to become a prayer and/or giving partner with them should the Lord be leading you in that direction. Please contact them through the church office.

The R family, West Asia

We've now been in our new home for one month. Because of the kindness of the Lord and another American family who had lived here, we had a home ready for us to move into. It does feel strange to us to have a house and yard after 10 years in a small apartment. The girls are enjoying being near their school and the girls are adjusting well. Even as I write this, the girls are with their classmates hanging out. There's something really special about TCK's (third culture kids) and this group has been the same for our girls.

Thankfully we were able to quickly gather all the needed documents, and we have already applied for our residence permit here. Will you **PRAY** with us for a positive response? We long to have stability and to be able to fully focus on our work here. We should have an answer in the next few weeks. Thank you for praying!

Meeting with our new teammates and co-workers was a joy. We were struck by their joy and their focus on prayer. **PRAY** with us as we continue to build these relationships and grow trust so we can support the local staff and help them be more successful in their ministry. New country; new language. So here we are learning yet another language. Thankfully this language is very similar to what we already speak. **PRAY** we can quickly gain proficiency. We have learned that other workers here have recently seen 11 people come to Christ, just this year! 11 is a huge number for this part of the world **PRAY** with us for many more in the months ahead. We are encouraged that God is at work here and is drawing people to Himself. May His kingdom come, and His will be done in this country. Thank you for **PRAYING**.

The Miller family, D.R.

Eric will be traveling to Virginia for Global Focus Week at Liberty University. Please **PRAY** for him as he connects with college students and shares in one of the breakout sessions about building healthy relationships on the mission field. **PRAY** that God uses this breakout session to better equip college students who are seeking to serve abroad.

GENESIS 2.0 PROJECT: **PRAY** that God continues to provide the funds needed to build the first special needs school in Jarabacoa through Students International. Eric spoke last week at a fundraising banquet on behalf of the building project and praise God that people were so generous in their giving. Thank you for **PRAYING**!

Simmons family, D.R.

Please continue **PRAYING** over our integration into the Bateyes, there's three that neighbor each other that will be the focus of the ministry starting out. We're also in the middle of a fundraising campaign, needing to raise about \$700 in monthly support, as Katherine's salary will come off the ministry's books after the end of the year. We'll be traveling a bit more during our Christmas trip to help with that. **PRAY** as well over the leadership team here (The Ovalles, The Herreras, and the Simmons) that the Lord would give us wisdom and discernment in the coming months as we continue laying the foundation of our ministry in San Pedro.

The B Family, East Asia.

PRAY for S B as he serves at Evangelical Community Church; **PRAY** for him as he ministers to a young man from TN who is in an East Asian prison facing a potential 25-year prison sentence; **PRAY** for a local man S taught in University in neighboring country who is now living in the B family's city and is taking steps toward trusting Christ; **PRAY** that God will give this local man and his wife the baby they are pleading for; **PRAY** that God will give S and A grace in their parenting

C Family, South Asia

PRAY for South Asia leaders who are currently in the US along with the C family hosting events highlighting their work and asking the Lord to raise up churches and Associations who will partner long-term with the work in South Asia (3-5 years). **PRAY** our family is blessed and encouraged as we travel to several states over the next few weeks talking about partnerships for the work. much-needed rest from the busy pace of summer ministry. We are grateful for the teams that are coming in November to explore partnership opportunities in South Asia.

Global Impact Conference 2026

Candies Creek Church, Feb. 1-3, 2026

Theme: "A River of Hope" Acts 1:8

Keynote Preacher: Dr. Michael Cloer

Guest Missionaries; Missions Fair

Soul-Stirring Worship

CCBC Upcoming Mission Opportunities

Honduras Dental Clinic, Nov. 2-9, 2025

South Asia, Nov. 13-22, 2025

North Africa, February 2026

Stay in touch with the latest prayer needs from our local, national, and global partners on these pages every month. Not every mission partner will be listed every month, but as many as possible.

“Covering Our Future” Building Fund

Our church education building has been a place of learning, growth, and spiritual foundation for countless children, students, and adults. Now, the building that has sheltered so many needs shelter of its own—a new roof. We invite you to prayerfully consider giving towards this project, so that future generations may continue to grow in faith under a safe and secure roof.

The approximate cost is \$35,000. The repairs will entail 300 squares of shingles, with each square costing \$120 for labor and materials. Please think about buying a square or two or ten!

Every gift, no matter the size, brings us closer to completing this important and necessary work.

\$35,000 Goal!

Covering Our Future
Building Fund

\$21,832.47

\$12,982.47

JOIN US IN REACHING OUR
GOAL OF \$35,000!



**DONATE
TODAY!**

candiescreek.com



WOW!

**“Blind Date with a Book”
Exchange!**

**Tuesday, October 14th, 5:30–7:30 pm in the
Fellowship Hall.**

**Bring a faith-based book wrapped up with
the genre and a few descriptive words
printed on the front to act as clues. Don't
include the title or the author.**

**We will enjoy some snacks and cozy fall
drinks together as we exchange our
“Blind Date Books”. These used or new
books can be “dressed to impress” with
stickers, bookmarks, etc....Which book
will you “FALL’ for?**



Children’s Ministry Fall Break Event

**Thursday, October 9th we will “Park Hop” our way
around Cleveland! We will leave the church at 10 am
traveling by church van and hop around all our
favorite Cleveland playgrounds. Bring a sack lunch
and get ready to have a blast!**

Grades K–6th

See Mrs. Christy to RSVP and for more details.

PRaise THE LORD!

Given in Sept.	\$56,400.12
September Expenses	\$60,472.11

2025 Given	\$662,351.71
2025 Expenses	\$689,719.81
Building Fund	\$21,832.47

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am - Ed.Bldg.	4
5 Howard Family Commissioning Lord's Supper College/YA Night @the Davis'	6	7	8 No AWANA No Precept Fall Break	9 Children's Ministry Park Hopping 10 am-1 pm K-6th grades	10	11
12 Shoebox Packing During C4 Both services Deacon's Mtg. 4:30 pm	13	14 Cleveland Emergency Shelter Meal Night 5:30 pm Booher Class WOW! Blind Date with a Book FH-5:30-730	15	16	17 Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am - Ed. Bldg.	18
19 Business/Members Meeting @4:30 Connect Night 6:00pm @the Steinle's	20	21	22	23	24	25
No C4- Children's Choir In both services Trunk-R-Treat No Choir Practice	27	28	29 AWANA Cowboy Night! Cowboy boots and Hayrides! Students- Harvest Night	30	31	

SUNDAYS

Early Worship Service.....8:00 am
 Community Groups.....9:15-10:15am
 Late Worship Service10:30 am
 Kid's precept.....4:30 pm
 OACC.....5:45 pm
 Kid's & Adult Choir.....6:00 pm

WEDNESDAYS

Precept Bible Study.....5:50 pm
 AWANA.....6:00 pm
 Prayer Meeting (WC).....6:00 pm
 Life 122 (StuB).....6:15 pm
THURSDAYS
 Men's Prayer Meeting6:30 am
 Precept Bible Study.....9:00 am
 Praise Team Practice.....6:30 pm



CANDIES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
294 OLD EUREKA RD.
CHARLESTON, TN 37310

Stan Gibson, Lead Pastor
Sammy Parris, Worship Pastor
Jed Cole, Student Pastor
Christy Johns, Preschool & Children's Director
Justin Goss, Candies Creek Academy Head Master

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1st	Susan Martens, Donna Matson, Christy Payne
2nd	Sabel Hooper
3rd	Rick Stoodly , Chuck Payne
4th	Lewis Dunn
5th	Donnie Atchley, Rosemarie Stout
8th	Tonie Medley
9th	Calvin Howard
11th	Jenna Geyman, Ben Vest,
12th	Vicki Davis
16th	Richard Roberts, Will Sprayberry Daniel Shoemaker
17th	Jeff Smith, Eden Hoffman
19th	Knox Witt
20th	Lori Simmons
23rd	Jeff Brantley Tripp Hall
25th	Jamison Work
26th	Peggy Taylor, Candra Gluckner
27th	Tyler Johns
30th	Chasity Witt, Jackson Purser
31st	Alvin Goodwin Mary Kate Steinle, Jed Simko



One Minute Clinic

Psalms 119:7-8

**I will praise you with an upright heart
as I learned your righteous laws.
I will obey your decrees; do not utterly
forsake me.**