

Do You Remember?

Throughout scripture God tells His people to remember His mighty works and to tell others about them that He might be glorified. I was grateful when one of our Preschool teachers, Jenny Kohlrus, did just that.

Shortly before school was out, as she was going through some things in her home, Jenny came across an early edition of this paper, *The Cornerstone Christian Courier*. It was dated from the summer of 2000 – just four years ago. On the back page of that particular edition was an article entitled “Vision for the Future.” Jenny had highlighted several sections and attached a note to April Kinzinger and I saying, “Just a reminder of how faithful our God is!” Read for yourself these words that were written not so long ago:

“Will CCA ever offer P.E. or intramural sports?” “When will CCA students be offered band?” “Will CCA ever have a gym?” “What about science labs?” . . .

Our vision includes all these things – sports, music, science labs, gymnasiums, fields, school buses, etc. . . .

We are praying continually that God will provide forty or fifty acres which will allow us sufficient room to have a gym and playing fields. We are asking God to show Himself mighty on our behalf and lead us to the place of His choosing.

Are you as awestruck as I was when I re-read those words? What an incredible thing God has done here! The vision He gave us for Cornerstone is rapidly becoming reality.

Four years ago we were praying for athletic teams.

Today we offer boys and girls basketball, track, cross country, volleyball and cheerleading. We have already seen several of our students go on to compete at the state level.

Four years ago we were praying for 40-50 acres of land.

Today we own (free and clear) 78 acres on which 52,000 square feet of building stand.

Four years ago we were praying for a gymnasium and a P.E. program.

Today we have a gym that other schools (both public and private) drool over and every one of our students participates in a physical education program. In the fall we'll even be adding weight training!

Four years ago we were praying for an expanded music program.

Today we have middle school and high school band programs as well as a worship band.

Four years ago we were praying for a bus.

Today there is one sitting in our parking lot (we're still praying for drivers – we should have been more specific!).

As I read the article mentioned above I was struck by how much has changed and yet, at the same time, how little has changed. God has, indeed, done a marvelous thing here, but our vision remains the same. If anything, it has become clearer with each passing year. We still envision a building with four wings, additional parking lots and athletic fields. We still envision graduating young men and women who will leave here and make a difference in their culture in the name of Christ for His glory.

All this is to say that we continue to pray for God's vision to be our vision. We will continue to pray that He will bring it all to come to pass in His time for His glory. And in the meantime . . . we will remember.

*I will remember the deeds of the Lord;
yes, I will remember your miracles of [not so] long ago.*

Psalm 77:11

Still in Awe,

Becky Shames, Administrator

2003-2004

Giving to Cornerstone

The Playground! Currently we still need slightly over \$12,000 to make our playground a reality. The total cost for the equipment itself is \$27,000 and we are counting on plenty of volunteer labor in order to save on installation. Pray with us that we might be able to have our playground by this fall, and we'll keep you informed.

Landscaping! Because of the generosity of our parents, over \$2300.00 was donated for landscaping our property. A master plan is being designed by a local landscaper, and trees should start appearing yet this summer.

World Magazine recently published an article depicting the different fundraisers that the vast majority of schools, public and private, participate in. The author of that article had sold candy bars for his children, bought magazine subscriptions, and delivered hot Krispy Kreme donuts to his neighbors. He raised a little over \$200 for his children's school.

Cornerstone has always had a "no fundraising" policy, believing that God is able to supply all we need through the voluntary giving of His people. As the chart below indicates, He has been so faithful to us! Take note of:

The Annual Fund – This fund represents monies that are expended annually. This is an important fund because it covers operational costs which fill the gap between tuition costs and actual cost to operate.

The Building Fund – The Building Fund continues to be the focus of giving to CCA. While we have received almost \$1.8 million dollars towards our building, the actual cost for the building was \$4.7 million. Pray with us for God's continued provision.

Never given to the Building Fund and want to be a part of what God is doing here? We'd love to talk to you more about regularly scheduled giving. Call April Kinzinger, Director of Development at 662-9900.

The Tuition Assistance Fund – As you can see by the giving chart, we received over \$47,000 in this fund in each of the past two years. While we are quite thankful for those monies, CCA awarded twice that amount, almost \$100,000, in just assistance last year! Already for the next academic year, we have committed to a similar amount. These assistance awards are not a budgeted line item; they must come in by voluntary gift donations. Because of you, our donors, over 70 students last year were able to receive some form of assistance!

Annual Fund Giving 7/03-6/04	Tuition Assistance Giving 7/03-6/04	Building Fund Giving 7/03-6/04	Total Giving 7/03-6/04
\$140,309.43	\$47,580.69	\$269,012.33	\$456,902.45
Same Period 2002-2003			
\$54,529.92	\$47,258.34	\$891,371.02	\$993,160.18
Same Period 2001-2002			
\$75,095.36	\$43,477.63	\$577,302.95	\$695,550.94
Same Period 2000-2001			
\$95,451.68	\$18,548.43	\$36,242.12	\$150,242.23
Same Period 1999-2000			
\$79,453.64	\$27,183.00	0	\$106,636.64

Requests & Answers

We've been praying! Last fall, we shared some requests with you, and we've been amazed at what God has done with them. We asked you to join us in praying for:

A Bus (Received 3/19/04)

An Electronic Piano (Received 11/03)

God's provision for landscaping (Received 5/04)

A portable sound system (Received 2/04)

Grass (Received 3/04)

A New Refrigerator (Received 12/04)

Snow Removal Equipment (Received 6/04)

Isn't God awesome? Thanks so much for praying with us!

What's next? We plan to offer weight training next fall, and we're in need of equipment for our upper school students to use. If you know of some, or have some to give away, contact us at 662-9900. No weight equipment? Perhaps you have a drum set you've wanted to get rid of! Our praise band would love to have a set since Mr. Hart took his with him when he left to help plant a church in New York City. Don't have either? Then join us as we pray for both of these items, and get ready to thank God for His answers!

At Work!

God is at work both inside and outside this place. Even as this newsletter is being written, volunteers are outside cutting down part of the hedge row that blocks the view of traffic on our road. Our fall and spring newsletters indicated that we were praying for grass and a mower to mow with. By late March, a donor had given us 63 fifty pound bags of Triple Turf grass seed. The day after that donation came, we received the use of a commercial lawn seeder! Also later in March, a Cornerstone Dad called and asked to donate a family tractor complete with belly mower. Our International "B" tractor arrived in April, just as the first few blades of grass were peeking out of the ground. Another farmer donated new blades for it, and we've already put it to good use.

In late June, a grandfather came by the school to bring us a wonderful John Deere snow blower which had been used only slightly. Dan Kinzinger, our building and grounds manager was thrilled with it, even though it will be months before he will get to use it. God has provided again!

We also received 20 newer computers from State Farm in May. They will be installed in our computer lab along with 20 larger monitors! What's more, the labor for the installation is being donated. In addition, State Farm has offered us extra teacher desks for next year. God has provided yet again!

Speaking of desks, with the increase in enrollment for next year, we hoped we would have enough desks for each student. We knew we had some in storage, and when we looked, wouldn't you know, we have just what we will need. Even before we ask, God continues to provide for us in amazing and delightful ways.

volunteer

Opportunities & Grants

How thankful we are for all our volunteers! We have Moms who are in the building on a daily basis copying, cutting, and organizing. We have Dads who go on Outdoor Education trips and help drive on field trips. We have grandparents who fold, stuff, stamp and mail letters. Thanks so much to all of you who have helped in any way this past year.

Want to volunteer? We'd love to have you! This summer we could use men to help move furniture. Our stage needs to be painted and a few walls touched up. In August, we'll have books that will need to be laminated. Call the school at 662-9900 if you have time to volunteer. We'll find a time that suits your schedule best.

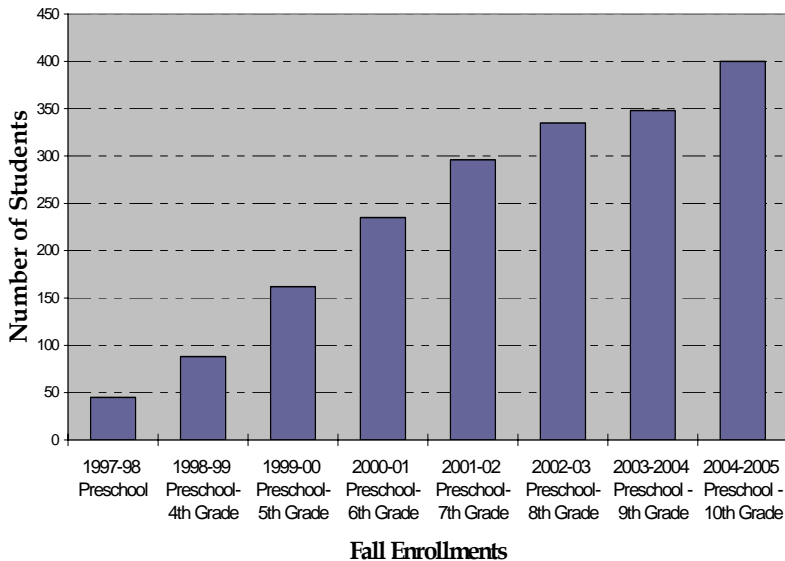
If you're a State Farm employee, you may also work towards the State Farm "Good Neighbor" Grant program. This program will pay a 501(c)3 organization \$500 a year for 40 hours of donated service. This past year, CCA received \$7,000 from the Good Neighbor program because of 12 current employees (and 2 retired!) who donated 40 hours to Cornerstone.

school

Growth Update

Check out our growth!

**Cornerstone Christian Academy Growth
1997-2005 (Projected)**



dates *to Note . . .*

August 26th & 27th – Visitation Days
August 30th – First Day of School
September 9th – School Picnic
September 28 – Open House
September 30 – October 1 – No School
October 14 & 15 – School Pictures Taken
October 28th – Founder’s Banquet at the Radisson

Note: The entire 2004-2005 school calendar is posted on our website: www.cornerstonechristian.com