



July 2009

Brenham Christian Academy

"You are the light of the world...let your light shine before men" - Matthew 5:14,16

From the Head of School

I hope each of you is having a restful and relaxing summer, despite the intense Texas heat (you know it's summer in Texas when the temperature drops below 95 and you feel a little chilly). Believe it or not, the beginning of school is only a little more than a month away from now, and 2009-2010 is already shaping up to be a stellar year for BCA.

As I ponder the prospects of the 2009-2010 school year, I am reminded of the chorus of the old hymn:

Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God hath done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.

There is no question but that we are a blessed school as we move into the coming school year. I outlined some of the following points in an earlier communiqué, but it is beneficial to review them again in the context of blessings from God:

- In all likelihood, we will begin 2009-2010 with a slight *increase* in enrollment from the close of 2008-2009. Having visited with other Heads of School from across the nation at a recent conference in San Antonio, I can assure you that we are nearly unique in this regard. Numerous Christian schools are experiencing declining enrollment in the coming year, and all too many are ceasing operations altogether. God is blessing us by allowing us to hold our own and even grow in number.
- God has blessed our efforts to recruit outstanding teachers from across the nation. In the coming year, teachers from Indiana and Florida will join our faculty as well as teachers from the Brenham area. It is wonderful to know that teachers near and far desire to become a part of what God is doing here.
- Additionally, we will have one of the most highly educated and experienced faculties in the history of BCA in the coming year. Of our 16 faculty members next year, seven possess Master's degrees, and several of our new teachers come to us with over 5 years of teaching experience. In addition, Diann Marley is now a candidate for her doctorate in education, which she will receive when she finishes her dissertation over the coming year. This level of training and expertise is nearly unheard of in a school of our size and demographic. Again, God has favored us tremendously in this regard.
- Finally, God continues to bless us through you, our families and patrons, as you stand in the gap for BCA with your prayers, your stewardship, your volunteerism, and your gifts. In many respects, you are His greatest blessing to us because BCA would not exist without your ongoing support in so many ways. THANK YOU!

Of course, with blessings come challenges, and the coming school year will be no different. When God is blessing, the Enemy is always at hand seeking to "steal and kill and destroy." Let us all then be ever more vigilant in our prayer cover for BCA so that God's good work may continue here unabated. Have great rest of the summer, and we will see you in August!

Announcements

2009-2010

1st Semester Calendar

August 3-14	Varsity Sports: 2-a-day workouts
August 5-7	New Employee Training 8 a.m.– 3:30 p.m. (All new teachers)
August 7	All Staff Training 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
August 10-13	All Staff In-Service 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
August 14	Meet the Teacher Night 4 th grade only
August 15	Varsity Football Home Scrimmage Student Council Retreat 4pm-8pm
August 17	First Day of School
August 18	Parent Orientation 6:00-7:30 p.m. @BCA campus
August 22	Varsity Football Scrimmage Away
August 25	1 st Home Volleyball game
August 28	1 st Home Football game
August 31	1 st Guardian Eagles Meeting
Sept. 4	Progress Reports
Sept. 7	Labor Day Holiday
Sept. 21	School Pictures
Sept. 25	Progress Reports
Oct. 14	PSAT Test
Oct. 16	Report Cards- End of 1 st quarter
Oct. 19	First Day of 2 nd 9 weeks (2 nd quarter)
Oct. 19-23	Homecoming Week and Football Game
Oct. 22	Homecoming Bonfire
Oct. 23	Homecoming Game
Oct. TBA	Homecoming Dance
Oct. 29	Fall Celebration for BCA and Early Release
Oct. 30	No school
Nov. 2	Picture Retakes Guardian Eagles Meeting
Nov. 6	Progress Reports/Early Release 7 th grade Knights of the Round Table
Nov. 6-8	High School Drama Production
Nov. 11	4 th -6 th grade Veteran's Day Production 2:30 p.m.
Nov. 12	Parent Forum @ 6:30 with Board Chair and Head of School – Dessert and Coffee
Nov. 18-19	7 th -10 th grade History Fair
Nov. 23 -27	Thanksgiving Holidays
Dec. 4	Christmas Stroll- Downtown Brenham Progress Reports
Dec. 10-11	4 th -8 th grade Christmas Caroling
Dec. 14	BCA Christmas Choral Concert
Dec. 16-17	Exams (Early Release Days)
Dec. 18	End of 1 st Semester (2 nd 9 weeks) Make up Exams only-Teacher Workday/Report Cards
Dec. 21-Jan 4	Christmas Holidays



*We work hard to adhere to our school calendar; however there are times when changes are beyond our control. Please check the RENWEB monthly calendar for updates or changes to the calendar.
*See Athletic Schedules for Game Dates and Times. Service Project Dates will be added at a later time.
* Updated 6-11-09

S U P P O R T B C A

Join the *Gideon's 300 Club*

God continues to broaden the scope of what BCA can and should offer to the communities it serves and to expand its reach into Brenham and the surrounding area. However, broadening our reach and building leaders through Christian scholarship requires investment, and that investment begins with each of us. Our generous gifts to BCA express our belief in our school, our programs, and our commitment to see our students make a difference wherever they are. Every gift to BCA works in a number of practical ways:

1. Improves the quality of education BCA students receive through better course offerings, improved teacher training, and more extracurricular activities
2. Expands and improves our facilities so that we can serve more students
3. Is tax deductible – your gift helps BCA, and it may reduce your tax liability at the same time
4. Helps us be good stewards of God's blessings and keeps them coming

Your voluntary financial gift helps BCA fulfill its mission to you, our students, and to generations of BCA students to come. By joining **Gideon's 300**, you become part of the 'army' God is raising to stand with BCA against the onslaught of popular culture.

At present, you may direct your gift in one of several ways:

Building & Construction Fund

The BCA Building Committee is exploring the construction of a building in the near future that would include an area large enough to serve as a chapel, gymnasium, auditorium, and lunchroom. The building could also house other key spaces such as a library and science lab. Such a building would then allow conversion of all rooms presently used for these purposes into classrooms, further fueling BCA's growth.

Scholarships & Financial Aid

BCA helps qualified students attend school through its scholarship and tuition assistance program. The leadership of BCA believes that no deserving student should be denied access to a BCA education because of financial obstacles. An outside resource evaluates each financial need individually to ensure confidentiality and objectivity.

Unrestricted Gifts

Allows BCA to use the funds in the area of greatest need

To become part of Gideon's 300, print the following card, complete the information, and drop the card off at the school office. Thank you for your support!



**Print and complete the following card. Please drop by the office.
Yes! I want to join the *Gideon's 300 Club***

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please direct my gift as follows (select one):

- Building & Construction
- Scholarships & Financial Aid
- Unrestricted

My Commitment to BCA:

- One time gift of \$ _____ (enclosed)
- Monthly gift of \$ _____

Level of Support (select one):

- Stakeholder \$25,000+
- Investor \$10,000-24,999
- Sustainer \$5,000-9,999
- Benefactor \$1,000-4,999
- Sponsor \$600-999
- Patron \$300-599
- Supporter \$0-299

Thank you for your support!



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

Jesus told this simple story, but they had no idea what he was talking about. So he tried again. "I'll be explicit, then. I am the Gate for the sheep. All those others are up to no good—sheep stealers, every one of them. But the sheep didn't listen to them. I am the Gate. Anyone who goes through me will be cared for—will freely go in and out, and find pasture. A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

John 10:6-10
The Message