

Veritas Classical Academy

News – May 2007

www.veritasnorman.org 405.850.5309

Part-time Enrollment Option

Veritas is opening enrollment to homeschool students, grades 6-9, who wish to participate in a variety of courses on a part-time basis. Courses include: General Math (Saxon 8/7), Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, General Science 6, General Science 7, Physical Science, Logic, Latin (Prelude, Latin ½, and Latin 1), Spanish 1, and Music/Art Appreciation. Application information and tuition fees for part-time students can be found under the “Admission” tab of our website.

The board is still accepting full-time student applications through June 15. Grades K-9 will be offered for the 2007-2008 school year.

Information Session

Our last Information Session of the year is coming up on Tuesday, May 22, at 7 pm in the Music Room of Trinity Baptist in Norman. Prospective parents and teacher applicants are encouraged to attend.

Staff Openings

The Board continues to accept applicants for staff openings for the 2007-2008 school year. Current openings include:

- Upper School Principal
- Middle School Science Teacher
- Middle School Math Teacher
- Middle School Art Appreciation (1 sem.)
- Kindergarten Teacher
- 1st Grade Teacher
- 2nd Grade Teacher
- 5th Grade Teacher
- PE and lunch helper

Job descriptions and application information may be found on the school website under the “Contact” page.

Prayer Requests

- Praise God for the \$52,000 that has been raised toward our fundraising goal of \$100,000. Please continue to pray that we would meet this goal.
- Please pray for qualified teacher applicants and an Upper School Principal.
- Pray for rest and refreshment for all the staff and families over the summer.

Special Thanks

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the teachers and parents for another wonderful school year. Special thanks go to all the parent volunteers who committed time to help make classroom parties, lunch and recess time, and school events a success.

School Needs

- Julie Serven, our current principal, will be attending the Association of Classical Christian Schools Conference in Atlanta in mid-June. If you have **frequent flyer miles that you would like to donate**, please contact Rebecca at the school office by May 31.
- Rebecca needs volunteers to help move the VCA office to another room on the 3rd floor of Trinity. Please contact her if you are able to help. Tentative move date is June 21.
- An office desk, chair, large bookshelf, and computer are needed for the office next year.
- PE equipment
- Please be looking for quality literature and reference books at garage sales this summer to donate to classroom libraries.

Education and Worldview

In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes (Judges 21.25).

We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ (1 Corinthians 10.5).

Every so often something comes along that reminds me why Veritas is so important. Recently two things came along. The first occurred while teaching an Introduction to Philosophy class at a local university. I cover a range of topics in the class, one of which is a section on the existence of God. As is typical among universities in Oklahoma the majority of my students are professing Christians. It

would seem that my Christian students would stand out in such discussions. Sadly, this was not the case. What troubled me most about these students was their demonstration of a deficient worldview. They prefaced statements with, “It’s just my opinion, but . . .” or “I happen to believe this for myself, but others may not.” Now, in and of themselves, these qualifiers might demonstrate a humility that seeks to avoid offense; however, by using such phrases these students demonstrated their uncritical acceptance of the dominant worldview of their generation. A worldview, the main thesis of which, is that all claims to truth are essentially offensive because there is no *one* truth out there. We must each go our own way and no one is to judge the validity of another’s way.

The second event came while discussing the book of Judges with the middle school Old Testament 1 class. There is a constant refrain throughout the book that illuminates Israel’s spiritual condition following the death of Joshua. In the first part of the book the refrain is, “And Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD” (2.11, 3.7, and many, many more). The refrain changes slightly in the latter part of the book. There it becomes, “Everyone did what was right *in his own eyes*” (17.6, 21.25, emphasis mine). Israel fell into her cycle of idolatry because she attempted to interpret reality on her own terms, “in her own eyes.” This is not unlike the sin in the Garden. It is common to think of Eve as facing a choice between God and Satan, but the choice looks more like it is between God and Eve. Notice how Moses records Eve’s reasoning. “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that *the tree was to be desired to make one wise*, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate” (Genesis 6.5, emphasis mine). Eve faced a choice, was she going to trust God at His Word or was she going to go it on her own (“in her own eyes”)? In short, the issue facing Eve was a worldview issue.

For my university students, they had relegated Christ to Savior. In essence, they committed themselves to the belief that Jesus belonged only to their “religious” times. But Christ is more than this—He is Lord over all, under Whom all things have been put into subjection (1 Corinthians 15.27; cf. Hebrews 2.8). What this means is that Christ is Lord over math, science, history and even philosophy. He has something to say about the truth of each of these disciplines and demands no less than His people’s pursuit of truth in these subjects in light of His Lordship. Indeed, we must teach students that the Battle of Hastings was fought in 1066 and that the area of a circle is πr^2 ; however, if this is all we teach we have failed as parents and educators.

We will have succeeded in producing well-educated pagans. We must instead give our students a foundation upon which they may build their educational edifice. Along with grammar, logic and rhetoric, we must provide them with a biblical worldview to back their knowledge. What excites me about Veritas and our parents is a commitment to achieving this goal.

-Josh Spears, Middle School Teacher

Upcoming Dates

Tues., May 22	Information Session 7pm in the Music Room at Trinity Baptist. Childcare provided upon request for \$5 a child. Please RSVP to the school office.
Sat., June 2	Admission/ITBS Testing (anyone welcome) 9-12 noon at Trinity Baptist \$50 per child. RSVP to the school office.
Week of June 4-8	VCA Office Closed**
Thurs., June 14	Enrollment Deadline for returning families
Friday, June 15	Application Deadline for new full-time students
Tues., June 19	Book and Uniform Resale Event. Time and location TBA.
Tues.-Wed., June 19-20	Spell to Write and Read Teacher Training. Time and location TBA. Parents interested in attending should contact Rebecca.
Wed., July 11 & 25	Home Day Workshop Optional. Offered by “veteran” VCA parents. 10-3 pm at Trinity. Please RSVP.
Sat., August 18	New Parent Grammar School Orientation 9-12 noon at Trinity.
Tues., August 21	Meet the Teacher 9-12noon in classrooms
	Upper School and Returning Grammar School Parent Orientation 6-9pm at Trinity.
Thurs., August 23	First Day of School

** The VCA office will be open this summer Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30-5:00 pm.