



Cumberland Valley Christian School

N E W S L E T T E R

Summer 2017

Cumberland Valley Christian School Class of 2017



CVCS Senior Graduating Class 2017

CVCS stands for Cumberland Valley Christian School, of course, but Class of 2017 salutatorian Brianna Miley informed an audience of around 400 people that the acronym represents a lot more as 26 seniors received diplomas during the school's 40th graduation ceremony on Friday evening, June 2, in the Open Door Church auditorium. Miley explained in her salutatory address that the school's initials can also stand for Character, Vision, Celebration and Stories. Character means remembering to maintain "the character that our teachers instilled in us." Vision means "keeping Christ as our top priority." Celebration

involves reveling in milestones the graduates accomplished, and "stories" stands for precious memories the graduates built. "Above all," she said, "remember God."

Dr. Jody Bowser, senior pastor at King Street United Brethren Church, delivered the commencement address. He offered a three-part challenge, exhorting the graduates, "Have God with you in your heart, have God with you in your mind by using the power to make good choices, and have God with you in your future."

Dr. Bowser advised that "things won't always go, I guarantee it, as you hope they will," but he illustrated

through the story of Joseph in Genesis that having God in his future "enabled [Joseph] to live with patience when things did not go as he had hoped."

Dr. Bowser urged the graduates to live with integrity, and he expressed that "what matters most is loving God and loving people."

Valedictorian Colby Royer told his classmates, "We've come a long way since elementary school, but God is not done with us yet."

Seniors earned more than \$140,000 in scholarship money to use for higher education. Additionally, 11 of the 26 have already earned college credits,

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A Letter From Mr. McKee



June 30th ended 43 wonderful and fulfilling years as principal of Cumberland Valley Christian School. Thanks first of all to Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, for calling me into the ministry and for allowing me to have a small part in molding the lives of boys, girls and young people. Thanks to Pastor Pedrone, Pastor Skelton and Pastor Sanders for investing into my life and entrusting me to oversee the school for all these years. Thank you Open Door Church for all of your support. I am grateful for all of the staff members that worked alongside me and helped the school become what it is today. Their tireless dedication whether as a teacher, secretary, aide, bus driver, custodian, kitchen worker or a coach was second to none and much appreciated. Thanks goes out to all the parents who believed in CVCS enough to send their children for a quality Christian education; without your prayers and support, I and the staff would never have accomplished what we did. Next, thanks to all the students that I had the privilege and joy to be principal to for all these years. I have so many great and precious memories of you, which have come flooding back over the last few days as I have been clearing out my office. I have run across cards, pictures, gifts, notes and many other things that have brought tears to my eyes, but joy in my heart. I wish all of you well and want you to know I am always here for you even though I'm no longer your principal; you will always be a big part of my life, even as I move forward to the next thing God has for me to do. A big thank you to the alumni for the wonderful gift of an Alaska Cruise, with Dr. David Jeremiah, for my wife and me. Your generosity is much appreciated. Lastly, I'd like to give a BIG shout out to the most wonderful and beautiful woman in the world, my wife Ruth, who has stood steadfastly beside me and behind me for these past 43 years (47 years in marriage). She has prayed for me, encouraged me and loved me. Without her being the helpmate that she has been, my ministry would not have been as joyous and fruitful. As I close once again, thank you, thank you, thank you for everything you have meant and done for me over these years. It will not be forgotten. I love all of you. To God be the glory! GO BLAZERS!!

Alumni Banquet

About 300 alumni gathered on June 25 to honor Mr. McKee for his 43 years of service to Cumberland Valley Christian School. Many former students traveled many hours to show their appreciation for Mr. McKee's hard work and dedication to the school. Mr. and Mrs. McKee were



presented with an Alaska Cruise from the alumni to give thanks for all they have sacrificed. The McKees will leave for their cruise on July 14. We have been blessed to have Mr. McKee as our principal for 43 years. Please pray for the McKees as they make this transition into retirement.

“What a blessing it has been to have had Mr. McKee as my principal. I can't thank you enough for your countless years of service and dedication to us kids as well as to the Lord. You've had a wonderful impact on my life and you will be missed. Enjoy this new chapter!”- Karli (Fogal) Kearns, Class of 2014



Class of 2017

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led by Ashley Winters with 21. Class president Harli Bergau welcomed parents, family and friends to the graduation and passed the torch of leadership to next year's class president, Shelby Heckman.

Aaron Johnson received the Dino J. Pedrone Award, which carries a \$500 scholarship. The award is given to a senior who shows a constant witness of Jesus Christ; has a desire to give his or her life to the cause of Christ; is faithful to church, soul winning, Bible study and a constant prayer life; has a good attitude toward those in authority; and is dedicated to academic

achievement.

Johnson accumulated more than 1,840 service hours during his time at CVCS.

This also marked the final graduation for Principal Carl McKee, who retired at the end of the school year. Mr. McKee, who served as principal for 43 years, was presented a gift of golf clubs and an Indianapolis Colts golf bag from the staff.

On May 23, 24 sixth-graders were honored during graduation ceremonies, and on May 25, 36 students graduated from kindergarten and were promoted to first grade.

CVCS Golf Classic

Cumberland Valley Christian School is hosting our annual Golf Classic on September 15 beginning at 9:00 a.m. The event will be held at Whitetail Ski Resort, which is located at 13805 Blairs Valley Road, Mercersburg, PA 17236.



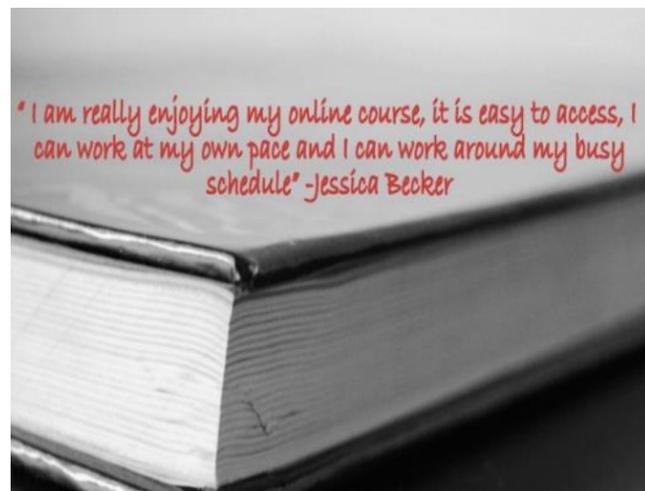
Lunch will be provided.

Multiple sponsorship opportunities and player packages are available.

For more information or registration, please visit our website: www.cvcsblazers.com.

Virtual School

CVCS will continue to offer online courses. We have added another Bible course this year along with several math courses. We are offering all of our courses at a great discount, and we have some classes for everyone 6th-12th grade. Contact Mrs. Danielle Sanders at: dsanders@cvcsblazers.com or apply for a course at www.cvcsblazers.com.



Merit Scholarship

Two CVCS seniors are in the running for the National Merit Scholarship. Because of their PSAT scores from last October, Madeline Cardinale and Patrick Wu have become candidates to become National Merit Scholarship semifinalists. The list of semifinalists will be announced in September.

CVCS has had several National Merit Scholarship semifinalists over the years. The most recent was Cora Russell in 2014. Cora went on to become a National Merit Scholarship winner and received a full scholarship to Oklahoma Christian University.



Cumberland Valley Christian School
A Ministry of The Open Door Church
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Year at a Glance

August 10 & 17– Parent Open Houses
6PM– 8PM in CVCS gym.

August 23-First Day of School

September 4- Labor Day No School

September 5-8- Spiritual Emphasis Week

September 15-CVCS Golf Classic

September 27– School Pictures

(Dates subject to change)

“For God hath
not given us the
spirit of fear;
but of power
and of love,
and of a sound
mind.”

1 Timothy 1:7