P HUNTING PARK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



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Transforming Hearts and Minds



by Kevin Deane,

Principal

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. -2 Corinthians 13:11

My brother-in-law restores classic cars in his garage. It is a pursuit that lies somewhere between passion and hobby, and he always works by himself. He starts with an old shell, stripping it down to a nearly unrecognizable hull. He searches exclusively for

original parts, scouring every avenue available for each just-right component. It takes a great deal of time, often a couple of years, but for him the end result is entirely worth it. After he finished restoring his 1970 Plymouth Barracuda, I asked him why he does it. He told me, aside from the enjoyment he gets from driving the finished product, he absolutely loves the process and takes pride in the work. He finished by saying, "It saves another old car from getting crushed."

I was not expecting this final reason, and it caused me to consider what Jesus has called all of His people to do -- restore. God established a perfect creation in the Garden; everything was good until sin entered in. In Psalm 24, David declares, "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." This is as true today as it was in Eden. But God is not just the God of creation; **He is also the God of restoration**. His magnificent, restorative work is threaded throughout scripture, from His repetitious rescue of Israel, to the year of jubilee, to His promise of making all things new in Revelation 21.

As children of God, our hearts long for the restoration of our community, corrupt systems, relationships, and even ourselves. Romans 8 says that creation itself also longs for liberation and restoration. Curiously, verse 19 says that "the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed," and verse 20 declares that "creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God." Jesus is actively involved in the restoration of this world, and we, the children of God, are allowed and called to play an active role in it!

This privileged assignment is not one that we can complete on our own. On the contrary, we have to rely, first, on the Creator and Restorer. We also need to rely on one another. Even my brother-in-law, working "alone," still depended on many others when searching for parts. Likewise, HPCA relies on the beautiful partnerships that each of you provides. We have witnessed truly great changes: in our building (you should see the new boiler that was installed thanks to the Race for Education!), in our students, and in the community. Restorative work is not easy, but I truly believe it is worth every ounce of dedication and effort. HPCA relies on partners like you. Would you consider how you might join the restorative work happening in North Philadelphia, whether by joining the prayer team, volunteering, encouraging, or donating? Thank you for being reliable co-laborers! God bless.

FALL GATHERING "RESTORATION"

Saturday, November 5th, 2016 2:00 pm-4:00 pm

> at HPCA 4400 N 6th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140

Parking lot available at Esperanza Health Center (4417 N 6th Street)

Please RSVP to Jen Deane at 215-324-9180 or jen@hpcaphilly.org

WAYS TO HELP

- Contribute toward this year's fundraising goal of \$485,500.
- *Business Owners*: Donate to our scholarship fund through OSTC (Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit).
- Include HPCA in your estate planning.
- Join our e-mail prayer team.
- Send us your Box Tops for Education and used ink cartridges.
- Organize a donation drive for Good Stuff Thrift Store.
- Volunteer at HPCA! We would be happy to help you use your gifts to serve our students.

Mission Statement: Hunting Park Christian Academy's mission is to provide an affordable, quality, Christian education that celebrates a diverse community and leads children to know and serve the Lord.

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS

This year, we are excited to award special scholarships to two students who have shown strong leadership potential and/or academic excellence.

Lisa Weidman Scholarship

This scholarship was created by the Weidman family in honor of Lisa Weidman. She loved helping people use their gifts to serve God, so the award was given to a student who displayed potential in this area. Tyliah enjoys singing, dancing, and public speaking and desires to be a signed recording artist when she is older. She would like to help others at HPCA grow in their faith and enjoys sharing about her faith with her friends.



Tyliah, 6th Grade

Andrew Heyer Scholarship

This scholarship was created in honor of Andy Heyer, a former board member who served as both Treasurer and President. This award is given to the top-performing math student in eighth grade. Caleb has been at HPCA since pre-kindergarten. He enjoys math because it comes easily to him, but is still challenging. He appreciates how his teachers are so nice, yet challenge students to strive for their best. When he is older, he would like to work in the film industry as an actor or animator.



Caleb, 8th Grade

Our 2016-2017 HPCA Staff



PRAISES

- Thanks to your support, we were able to exceed our budgetary goal and raise about \$529,000 for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Thank you!!!
- Langhorne Presbyterian Church donated funds to purchase a new school-wide intercom system. Many thanks!
- We received nearly \$3,600 in school supplies donated by Doylestown Presbyterian Church, Langhorne Presbyterian Church, Supplee Presbyterian Church, and Telecom Pioneers Chapter #132.

CONGRATULATIONS, VALEDICTORIANS!

Congratulations to Aryione Finney and Isamar Nuñez Ayala, graduates of HPCA's Class of 2012, who finished their high school careers as valedictorians of their classes. We're so proud of the amazing women they have become and wish them success in their futures!

Aryione attended Lankenau Environmental Science Magnet High School and was active on the bowling team and yearbook committee. She will attend West Chester University, majoring in Economics/Finance with the hope to eventually work at a large corporation. She feels that HPCA prepared her academically by teaching her algebraic concepts so she was ready to advance in high school. She is thankful that her experience at HPCA helped her to stay on the right path, kept her out of trouble, and helped her understand who she is as a person. She felt like the HPCA teachers were more like family and allowed for a better atmosphere to learn.





Isamar attended Community Academy of Philadelphia Charter School. She believes one of the most amazing things about HPCA was that everyone knew everyone and that without that family environment, she wouldn't be the person she is today. She looked up to her teachers and valued them as role models. This atmosphere helped her as she moved forward to high school. Aside from academics, she believes that the morals and identity she developed at HPCA helped her during the scary moments of high school. She strove for excellence and became the President of the National Honor Society, the manager of the backstage crew of all school performances, and captain of an environmental team. Her teachers from HPCA taught her that God always comes first and everything else will follow. As she continues her journey at LaSalle University this fall, she will aim to put God first in everything she does. She plans to major in Secondary Education with a concentration of Mathematics and become a teacher, to inspire future students the same way her teachers at HPCA inspired her.