2015-2016

Yearbook

Memorial Christian Academy



Created by Carter & Makayla Allison, Andrew & Megan Beck,
Joel Booth, Madison Sams, and Sydney Wojtysiak

FORWARD

The computer project for the students this year was to develop this yearbook, the first for our school. The first goal was to commemorate the first student to attend our school from Kindergarten through High School, as well as all those who have attended and helped throughout the years. The second goal was to learn the computer skills necessary to create this book.

The students reviewed yearbooks from their parents and some of their own to choose the sections that are included in this book. They also helped choose the order the sections would be presented and some of the photos included.

I would like to thank all that have contributed to this book, either through guidance, providing photos, or providing information that is included within. If you find any issues contained within, please email mcayearbook@gospelassembly.org; I will make the corrections and notify everyone that an updated copy is available.

It is our goal to produce a yearbook each time there is a graduate. In order to make this possible it would be appreciated if anyone involved with the school in any way would provide all photos and videos taken on field trips, volunteer lessons, and at other school events so they may be included in future editions. Also, if anyone has suggestions, a story, quote, poem, etc., they would like included in the future, please pass those along to the email address above as well. Let me know about photos and videos, and we can work together to find the best method for getting a copy of them to the school.

May God continue to bless our school and all involved.

Bro. Paul Wojtysiak

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS



We began to build a new church building in the fall of 1998. I had felt that the Lord wanted me to do three things with the life he had extended to me. One was to provide a school for the church families to send their children to for their education. I didn't know when we would be able to do all of the work to prepare for and open a school, but we added enough room in the new building to accommodate 2- 9 school.

Interest in a school heated up in the late part of 2001. The church in Godfrey expressed a lot of interest in participating with us in forming a school. It was also determined that we would need to offer kindergarten and first grade also.

We began working quickly to get the school ready for the 2002- 2003 school year. We had settled on the ACE School of Tomorrow curriculum and system. I can't recall who attended the training, but Sis. Lori Wojtysiak, Sis. Eunice Shaw, and of course myself (the ones I cannot recall, please forgive me).

Bro. Pat Miller helped us set up the student offices with equipment he found. We purchased the curriculum and score keys we needed, other equipment was donated and right on time we were ready to begin. We were all excited and began a journey that would help us realize how much we needed to learn, and we are still learning

We were blessed with a lot of volunteer help the first few years and so appreciate those who generously donated their time. We graduated students from kindergarten and then Eighth grade. Eventually we began to have high school graduates. Some have gone on to college and are continuing their studies, some are in business, some working in different fields, and even some to the military. I can say we love them all.

This year is a milestone because we are graduating our first student who started in kindergarten and has been with us all the way through. Jolena Beck is a special girl and we are proud to have had her for thirteen years. Jolena has said and it is true that none of this could have happened without the

dedication and skill of Sis. Lori and all of the helpers and families that have helped us.

Jolena is on her way to new things and a successful life. We have a number of others following her footsteps, who she wants to help. Please pray that the Lord would keep providing everything we need to provide a quality education for the children of the church.

Bro. Clyde Shaw

TEACHER'S ADDRESS



I have enjoyed teaching God's children who have come through Memorial Christian Academy since 2002. Each one has had his or her own personality, and they all have spiced up life; teaching has always been an adventure. I have and will always pray that God gives me what I need to help each individual student so that he or she grows in knowledge and in Him.

I have also loved the things that have come out of the "mouths of babes." Early on I started keeping a journal of the funny things that students have said or done in their school work. I want to share some of those here, but the names have been deleted to protect the innocent. :-)

One day a student was looking very troubled while doing some math. When I asked him what the problem was, he said, "I need help. I'm adding 6 and 5 and I keep getting 11." I had to suggest (after a quick chuckle) that maybe that was because it was right.

The students do chores each day after lunch. I went into the boy's bathroom (after checking to be sure it was empty) to check the chores in there. One of the girls decided to be funny and said she wasn't going to let me out of the boys' bathroom. While she was taunting me from outside the door, I walked across the baptismal that joins the two bathrooms, checked the girls' bathroom, then left that way. The student was still yelling into the boys' bathroom when she turned and saw me half way across the gym - she had such a look of surprise on her face!

We also pray every morning before we start school. We take prayer requests from all the students, and one of those was from a young man expecting a new sibling soon. He asked us to pray for his mom because she was going to have a baby one day and he was going to have to sleep outside.

There have also been those students who try to get by with things. One student was supposed to be writing definitions for words. I guess he got tired of looking them up because on one of them for the definition he wrote, "not in dictionary." He didn't get by with that one and had to look it up anyway.

The innocence of children is very cute, too. One student put a dollar in the soda machine. After the soda and change came out, she grabbed the quarters out and said, "Can I keep these?"

At the end of each quarter the students get the opportunity to grade their own behaviors. One of those categories is "Successfully Reaches Goals." One of our younger students gave himself and N for needs improvement. I questioned this because he had finished all his tests for the quarter. He said that he could not reach his goals (his goal card on the wall) without standing on his chair.

There have also been some Biblical laughs, as well. I will never read or hear the Scripture Colossians 3:13 again without thinking of a certain student. He wrote, "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a squirrel (quarrel) against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." I now always read that scripture with the word squirrel in it.

Also, as luck would have it, the movie Wreck It Ralph came out the year the students were memorizing and reciting Ecclesiastes 12:13. I remember this because the character, Vanelope, from that movie heard that Ralph had just come from the game "Heroe's Duty" and she laughed and said, "He said, 'duty.'" She then went into a fit of giggles because of the word duty (doody).

That Scripture says, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." It was very hard for the students to get the last part out without laughing or saying, "He said, 'duty.'"

Another student told me after she was finished looking over her test that she had looked it over and found two "correctments."

Being a teacher also means you have to learn to read creative spelling. Some of those I got to interpret were:

- bacon instead of beacon
- tourists instead of tortoise
- "I use 'soup' to wash my hands."
- row motel instead of role model
- porfeshonal instead of professional
- rainbeer instead of reindeer
- ishoes instead of issues
- brudr instead of brother
- uth instead of youth

And there was one instance that a student told me his reading book had people drinking blood at the beginning of it. I

couldn't believe this, so I asked him to show me what he was talking about. He took me right to the spot - it said they were "blood-thirsty."

I have loved every laugh that these stories have brought to my life. At times I would also share these in class with the students, and they would love to try to guess who it was or wonder if it was them, but most importantly they were able to laugh at them as well. I hope all the students will remember in years to come something that will bring a smile and a laugh to mind from their years at Memorial Christian Academy.

I love you all and wish you all the best future that God has for you!

Sis. Lori Wojtysiak

"I Teach"

I teach because there is a great fulfillment that comes in working with girls and boys.

I teach because I wanted to be a sculptor, and I can do so, by shaping lives for the future.

I teach because I wanted to be an artist, and I can do so, by painting dreams for children.

I teach because I wanted to be a musician, and I can, in giving inspiration to children.

I teach because I wanted to be a historian, and I can in having recorded something for the lives of great men to come.

I teach because I wanted to be a poet, and I can in writing impressive passages of mankind.

I teach because of the reward I receive when a child's frowns turns to smiles, or when he/she says, "Now I understand."

I teach because of the personal growth I receive each day as I venture out on a quest for knowledge and techniques to help my students understand.

I teach for it is in this where I can see the worthwhile and true fulfillment of living.

Author: Unknown

Unity Poem

I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there.
The clay they used was a young child's mind
And they fashioned it with care.
One was a teacher, the tools he used
Were books, music and art.
The other, a parent, worked with a guiding hand
And a gentle, loving heart.
Day after day, the teacher toiled with touch
That was deft and sure.
While the parent labored by his side
And polished and smoothed it o'er.
And when at last their task was done,
They were proud of what they had wrought
For the things they had molded into the child
Could neither be sold nor bought.
And each agree they would have failed
If each had worked alone.
For behind the parent stood the school
And behind the teacher, the home.

Author: Unknown

OUR HELP

Staff

Rev Clyde Shaw - Pastor and Principal

Lori Wojtysiak - Teacher 2nd - 12th

Eunice Shaw - Kindergarten and 1st (2003-2005)

Cynthia Miller - Kindergarten and 1st (2006-2009)

Volunteers

Kyle Allison	Violet Clendenny
Melissa Allison	Mike Davenport
Nick Balz	Jay Daves
James Beck	Junior Daves
Joy Beck	Terri Durham
Stacey Beck	Carol Ehlers
Connie Booth	Sandy Ehrenreich
Penny Booth	Jane Goff
Rob Booth	Shaelynne Kirkendoll
Hannah Brandon	Bob Livsey
Ruth Ann McClintock	Gina Shaw
Charlie Miller	Johnny Tomerlin
Emily Nash	Lisa Tomerlin
Kaye Nash	Lorraine Tucker
Lauren Ogden	Melissa Valyo
Jeri Patton	Sally Widowski
Hylia Schrieber	Paul Wojtysiak

Activities

Kyle Allison - Science

Joy Beck - Arts and Crafts

Stacey Beck - Arts and Crafts

Penny Booth - Cooking and Sign Language

Junior Clendenny - Archery

Laura Sams - Science

Rev Clyde Shaw - Art, Spelling Bees

Leonard Wojtysiak - Shop

Paul Wojtysiak - Computers

STUDENTS



CLASS PHOTOS



2015-2016 Class



2013-2014 Class



2012-2013 Class



2011-2012 Class



2010-2011 Class



2009-2010 Class



2008-2009 Class



2007-2008 Class



2006-2007 Class



2004-2005 Class



2002-2003 Class

STUDENTS

Allison, Carter - (2012 - Present)



Allison, Makayla - (2014 - Present)



Beck, Andrew - (2009 - Present)



Beck, Jolena - (2004 - 2016)



Beck, Megan - (2012 - Present)



Booth, Joel - (2013 - Present)



Sams, Madison - (2012 - Present)



Turner, William - (2016 - Present)



Wojtysiak, Sydney - (2011 - Present)



PAST STUDENTS

Abernathy, Michael

Balz, Gabriel

Balz, Jeremiah

Beck, Jeremiah

Beck, Julianne

Beck, Justin

Beckwith, Hannah

Beckwith, Jacob

Beckwith, Jessica

Booth, David

Daniels, Cailin

Fee, Katie

Miller, Leah

Miller, Rachel

Myers, Jacob

Myers, Sarah

Nilson, Kristin

Nilson, Kyle

Oates, Crystal

Oates, Paul

Oates, Zach

Ogden, Jacklynn

Ogden, Janessah

Ogden, JoAnnah

Ogden, Jonathan

Ogden, Lauren

Ogden, Matthew

Roberts, Krystal

Valyo, Maren

Valyo, Raina

Ward, Brian

2016 GRADUATE

I can't believe I'm a senior!



There are not enough words to describe how much I love this school. Being able to attend here since kindergarten has been one of the greatest blessings!

The curriculum here, in my opinion, has always been the best choice that a Christian family can make. I have loved so many subjects throughout my years here. My favorites would have to be Bible, History, and the Constitution.

The one thing I am most thankful for, above everything, is how big of an impact this school has had on my life. The curriculum, the atmosphere, the students, and most importantly, the teachers. I don't know where I would be without my teachers.



I have gotten to go to so many different field trips, and they were all pretty great, but my absolute favorite would have to be the Busch Stadium trip! We got to tour so much on the inside and we also got to walk out and check out the field!

Sis. Lori has always been a godly influence and has always wanted the best for me. She is patient, kind, and understanding. She has helped me along the way since day one, and I will forever be grateful for what she has done.

There's always a person you can count on at school to be there for you no matter what, right? I truly believe that God couldn't have given me a better influence at my school than the one he gave me. She gives me advice, prays for me, let's me talk to her about anything I'm going through, shows me every school day how to be a good mother, and loves me no

matter what. My Aunt Stacey has been one of the greatest blessings I've ever been given!

I may not have been given a class full of peers for my high school years, but it hasn't bothered me one bit. I will always love every single one of the children at that school! They may be crazy at times, but I wouldn't trade them for a class full of high school students no matter what.



I loved getting the chance to watch them all learn and grow, and I'll miss all of them more than words could ever tell.

Thank you, MCA, for being the greatest church school anyone could have asked for.

ALUMNI

Through the years we have had several graduates.

- Katie Fee
- Jeremiah Beck
- Justin Beck
- David Booth
- Julianne Kennemer
- Lauren Ogden

Some of our graduates provided information about their time at our school and what it means to them.

JEREMIAH BECK



My time at MCA is one of my most cherished memories thus far in my life. There aren't words to explain how much it influenced my life. If I didn't attend school here, there's no telling where I would be today.

First and foremost I'm grateful for Bro. Shaw having a desire to open a school. If it weren't for him having the perseverance and diligence he had over the years, I wouldn't be the man I am today. Whether it was teaching me how to press on when the order seemed too tall, all the way down to how to calculate the interest on a home loan, Bro. Shaw kept me in line.

Sis. Lori was the biggest contributor to my education. I greatly appreciate her for laying her life goals aside to do what God and the church needed her to do. She always put the school first and never once thought of herself. I also admire the good spirit and dedication she had during my time there. If it weren't for Sis. Lori, I would've never made it through math with a passing grade!!

I made a transition from public school to MCA after I finished my 7th grade year. While I hadn't got into much trouble yet, the influence of the kids at school was starting to weigh on me. My time there changed my life forever.

JUSTIN BECK



My experience at Memorial Christian Academy was probably the best schooling that could have happened in my life. My last year in public school was the fifth grade, and even in elementary school things were pretty bad. I was surrounded by ungodly kids, and it was definitely a place where God was not welcome.

I remember my first day like it was yesterday. I was definitely a little bit nervous, but I knew it would be a better place than the public school I was in before. There were several things that were different, but I caught on fast. Things such as chapel, the pledges for the Christian flag and Bible, scripture memorization, and dress codes. All the differences have made a difference in my life today. I have a respect for not only my country, but also my Christianity, the Word of God, and also an understanding of why we dress the way we do in the body of Christ.

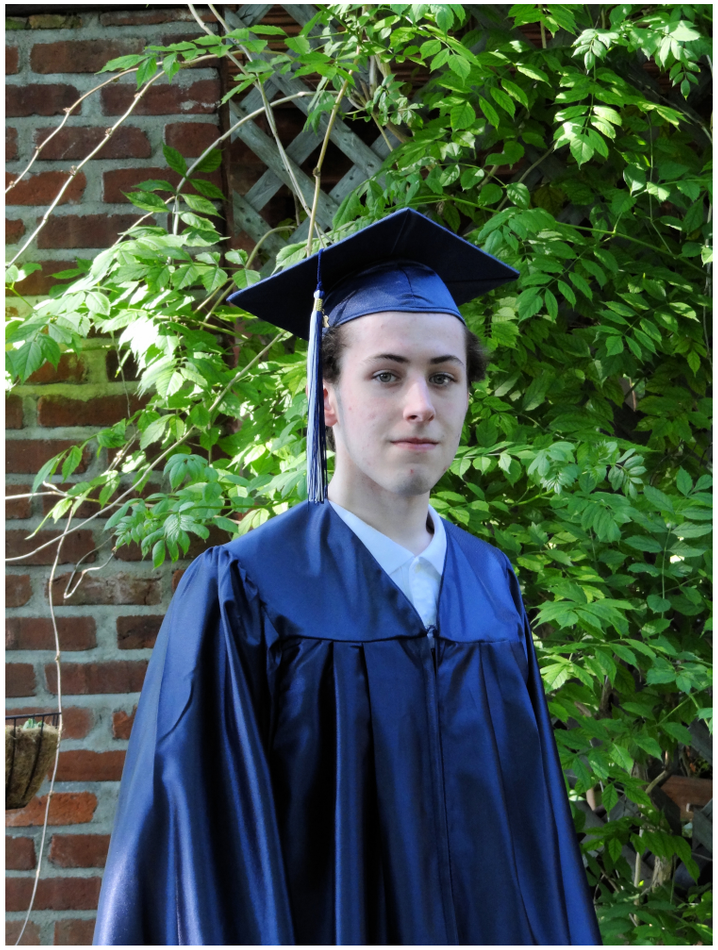
Previously, I was surrounded by all kinds of bad influence at the public school, but here I was surrounded by the children of the King! Teachers that were holy ghost filled and wanting nothing but the best for all of us. Looking back, sure I wasn't always the most "well-behaved" kid, but they showed me kindness and also correction when needed. I highly appreciate that today. For without discipline, I wouldn't have any respect for authority today.

Bro. Shaw was such a good mentor in my life, as well as Bro. Bob Livsey. Many times both would answer any of my Bible questions. Bro. Shaw would stay extra hours to help me catch up with my school work that was hard on me, and Bro. Bob showed me how to play sports and be competitive with the right attitude and spirit.

Sis. Lori did so much throughout the years. She was really understanding on each level each kid was. She was over a many-aged group, so I'm certain it was tricky at times. She helped me for hours at times, and always made sure I was doing the best I could.

There's so many more things I could say about this place. It holds so many wonderful memories of laughter and embarrassing stories. If I ever amount to anything successful in life, I know that most of it will be because of my Lord Jesus Christ and for Him allowing my parents to send me here.

DAVID BOOTH



My time at Memorial Christian Academy was some of the best time in my life. It really helped me to become a better student, worker, and person. Being here taught me to set goals for not just my work, but my life as well.

JULIANNE KENNEMER



I attended Memorial Christian Academy for nine years. When they asked me to write something I racked my brain to think of what to talk about, and then it hit me. I want to talk about the four years that built who I am today, High School.

Everyday was different, as it always is for a child. I woke up with a different outlook on my life every single day. Although some days were rough, the people that I was so blessed to join every morning were always happy, especially my teacher and my principal. In all my years of attending I never knew of anyone who cared more about my education than Sis. Lori. She was such a blessing. In my High school years it became more difficult for me to attend to my studies, shocker, I know. However Sis. Lori checked everyday to make sure that I was staying on track and that I was getting any help I may have needed. Somehow through that she also taught me a lot in the art of sewing. She was an amazing blessing to me.

As I have stated before, my principal, Bro. Shaw, was also a blessing. Anytime I would have any kind of trouble he would set an hour or two aside from his busy schedule to study with me, and it helped more than he could ever know. He taught me a lot as well in Bible every Monday when we had chapel. He was always so kind-hearted and wanted everyone to know and feel like they were a part of something wonderful. I can never thank him enough for making me feel so special every day.

Everyday I went to school as a child I dreaded it. However, now that I am grown, married and wanting to raise a family, I realize that the years I spent in MCA were some of the best years of my life. They helped build me into the person I am today, and I will forever be indebted to everyone who volunteered.

My only regret in the school was that at my graduation I didn't take the opportunity to tell everyone how grateful I was for all they did. So, in saying that, thank you. There are not enough words to describe how wonderful you made my life through my years of schooling. I don't know what I would have done without all of you! Thank from the bottom of my heart to my study guide, to every person that ever signed my paper, to my wonderful P.E. teacher, and to the person that sat outside so we could have recess! Thank You, that's all that I can say

LAUREN OGDEN



My favorite subject was English.

The thing that impacted me the most was the special relationship that I developed with Bro. Shaw. He is someone I will always look up to.

I have two favorite field trips: the trip to the St. Louis Courthouse where we reenacted a court case and our trip to Chicago.

One of my most treasured memories was art class with Sis. Connie and making baskets with her.

One thing I appreciate the most was the time and effort Sis. Lori invested in me.

I'm stuck on a funniest memory. Still trying to think of one.

FIELD TRIPS

Unknown Date

St Louis Science Center

New Salem

2002-03

Eckert’s Apple Orchard

First State Prison, Lincoln/Douglas debate site, Wadlow

Grant’s Farm

2003-04

????

????

Zoo

2004-05

Hartford Lewis & Clark Museum

Little Caesar's

2005-06

City Museum

Magic House

St Louis Symphony Orchestra

2006-07

Greene County Days

St. Louis Mills Ice Zone

Lincoln ALPML

Chicago

2007-08

Cahokia Mounds

St. Louis Court House/Joplin House

Cheney Mansion

2008-09

Fitz

Missouri Botanical Garden

Transportation Museum

2009-10

????

????

Arch

2010-11

Carrolton Nature Outing

????

????

2011-12

Fire Museum

WIBI

Daniel Boone Home

2012-13

Cold Stone Creamery

City Museum

New Salem Historic Village

2013-14

Little Caesar's & Shivers

St. Louis Symphony Orchestra

Lewis & Clark Camp DuBois & Confluence Tower

2014-15

Olden Days at Tri County Tractor Club

Jersey Community Hospital & Wellness Center Tour

St. Louis Science Center - Forces of Nature

2015-16

Busch Stadium Tour

Jerseyville Police and Fire Departments Tour

Farm Tour in Southern Illinois

PHOTOS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS



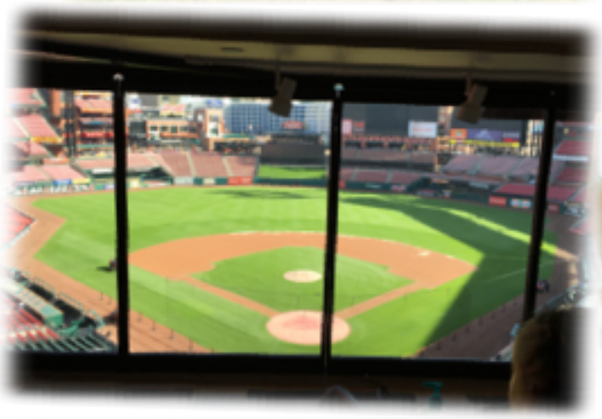


















2013-2016













2010-2013



2007-2010











2002-2007





















MCA EAST



MCA WEST















SCRIPTURES



All of the scriptures for the 2013-2014 school year

STUDENT FUN



Students having fun with a special effects app

FIELD TRIPS



Various field trips through the years

BRO BOB CHRISTMAS



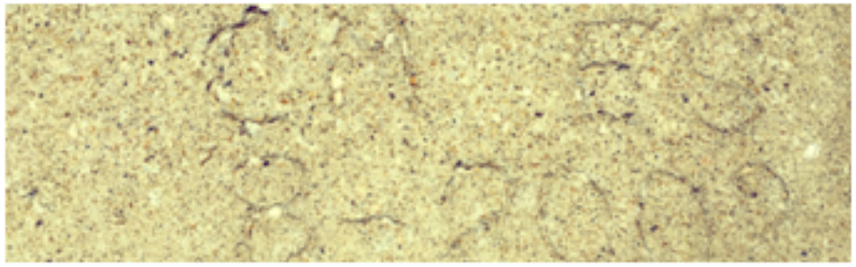
Bro Bob likes to dress up for the class Christmas party

GUESS THE INITIALS

















These are the initials of the staff and students engraved in the concrete the year the school opened. They are in order from the door into the school out toward the gate:

- ES
- CM
- JO
- RM
- MI
- BW
- SM
- MD
- GB
- HB
- CD
- OJ
- JO
- JM
- DB
- LM
- LAW
- JB
- CMS
- TF
- LI

Here are the answers, how many did you guess correctly?

- ES - Eunice Shaw
- CM - Cynthia Miller
- JO - Janessa Ogden
- RM - Rachel Miller
- MI - Matthew Irwin
- BW - Brian Ward
- SM - Sarah Myers
- MD - Mikah Davenport
- GB - Gabriel Balz
- HB - Hannah Beckwith
- CD - Cailin Daniels
- OJ - Jonathan Ogden/Jacklynn Ogden
- JO - Jonathan Ogden/Jacklynn Ogden
- JM - Jacob Myers
- DB - David Booth
- LM - Leah Miller
- LAW - Lori Wojtysiak
- JB - Jake Beckwith
- CMS - Clyde Shaw
- TF - Terri Fields
- LI - Lauren Irwin

AUTOGRAPHS