



Mesquite Christian Academy Newsletter

August - December 2025 Issue

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."
Proverbs 9:10*

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 12

Farewell to the Peeples family.
We miss you!

October 23

Water District Awards Presented for
"A Day Without Water Contest"
We have five winners!

October Vote by Students & Teachers-

We are now the
Mesquite Christian Academy Lions!
New Logo-Thank you Mr. Cisco!



December 11 - MCA Christmas Program

New sisters born today!
Sophia Grace Bird (Benjamin)
Amara Rose Timinskas (Iris)

December 13 - Constitutional Speech

Contest. Alex Luevanos represents
MCA and wins to go to district in Las
Vegas in January 2026.

December 19-End of 2nd Quarter Report

Cards.
Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
Christmas Break Begins

January 5 - Return to School - Second

Semester Begins
WELCOME New H.S. Teacher
Mrs. Jesse Smith. Thank you to Mr.
Fleming for his years of teaching.

MUCH APPRECIATION

**AND THANKS TO:
OUR PARENTS!**

**ALL OF OUR GENEROUS DONORS
OF FUNDS, SUPPLIES AND PIZZA
TO MCA!**

THE BEST VOLUNTEERS ANYWHERE!

BON VOYAGE TO SOME OF OUR FAVORITE PEEPLES!



**Going away party for the
Peeples sisters.**



ELLE



KATELYNN



KAROLINE

Elle, Katelynn and Karoline, moved to
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
with their family on September 12.
Mrs. Peeples was a part time teacher at MCA,
and their older sister
Juliana, visited us from time to time.
Mr. Peeples was hired for a new job with an
energy company in Pennsylvania.
The girls all attend a Christian school nearby
and ride the bus to and from school.
They seem to like their school and have
already made friends. No surprise to us!
We keep you in our prayers that you will thrive
in your new home.....
(And that you may come back)!

MORNING PLEDGES



CRAZY HAIR & PAJAMA DAY



**Mrs. Sappington & Mrs. Rogers
with students.**

time-crunch : out-of-time : double-time : quick-time : time-clock : free-time : sign-of-the-times : time sequence ::

from the principal . - CONSIDER TIME & THE TIMES

Have you noticed that time is flying by so fast it makes your head spin? If not, you will when you get older. As a child, my grandparents would comment on how fast time goes by as you get older. That seemed strange since time seemed to go slow as I waited for the next holiday or season to arrive. However, I didn't forget what they said, intent on finding out for myself if this was true. Now that I am older, time is indeed going by fast, too fast!

If it is true that time is going by fast, it makes sense to ask ourselves if we are using our time wisely or wasting it. What is the main focus in my life? Who do I, or what do I, spend most of my time with? God governs time and we are stewards of the time God has given us on this earth.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21

Jesus spoke these words in the *Sermon on the Mount*, teaching that a person's priorities and values, or their "treasure" determines where their heart and focus lie. Are our treasures earthly or Heavenly? Earthly treasures cannot be taken with us when we are gone, they are temporary and subject to theft and destruction. Heavenly treasures are spiritual and eternal investments, lived through life *in* Christ. More about this further on.

Many of us spend time working each day to earn a living. Do we complain and grumble or are we thankful for the work, for the ability to do it? Each day, we choose to be grateful of ungrateful for God's provision.

What about the past? How much of our time is spent living in, or dwelling on, the past? Pining for times that were better, dredging up times filled with guilt and regret, or remaining angry at someone for what they did or didn't do? We likely have cherished memories as well, the ones we go back to throughout life. They bring us joy, laughter, sometimes tears, and they are good, but we don't stay there. The past is gone and time spent dwelling there robs us of living today. Visit the good memories, learn from past experiences and mistakes, so that today is better lived.

What about the future? While planning ahead and making goals is important, the future is not where we live each day. Do not wish time away! Pay attention to the journey along the way, or you will miss the joys found in the smallest of things. Joy is something we know because of Who we know, in spite of our circumstances, it is not the same as happiness, which comes and goes.

Enjoying the moments we are in, takes intentional effort. Are you living life or getting through it?

Being a motorcycle rider, I found the perfect saying on a poster that reads, "*Happiness is not around the corner, it IS the corner.*" The picture on the poster is of a motorcycle rider leaning the bike, as he takes a corner. That's it! We are to enjoy the journey and the adventure, enjoy the moments now, they are fleeting. (I confess to feeling happiness AND joy in the corner).

And for some of us, we enjoy the risk. Weigh the risks in life without living in the fear of "what if" land. What if I get hurt, what if I look stupid, what if I fail, what if, what if! What if you fall in your house and get hurt? Are you going to pad each corner and crawl on the floor so you don't fall? Now your knees are bruised and painful.

What if you succeed? What if you discover something new? What if you enjoy yourself?

What if you are more capable than you think?!

Now, how about eternity; the most important time to consider? Time that has no beginning, no end. Because He loves us, Jesus wants us to spend eternity with Him. God gave us free will to choose Him, or not.

To believe or not to believe. Will it be with God or without Him? There is no middle ground. Where will you spend eternity? There are two choices, and one is not an eternal party with friends.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

Jesus, who was sinless, willingly died on the cross to pay for our sins. He was buried, and rose again on the third day. He paid a debt that we could not pay. Many say, "I am not a sinner! I'm a good person, I do what's right, go to church, obey the law, I'm honest," and so on. But that is not what God says about the condition of mankind.

We are ALL sinners and in need of salvation.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” Romans 3:23-24

“God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

meantime : day-time : night-time : end-time : time-out : time-frame : short-timer : long-time : time-stamp : no-time : sometime : down-time : up-time : lag-time :

timeless : time-machine : time-warp : full-time : part-time : time-zone : nano-second : leap year : light year : split second : stop watch : hour-glass : time-trial :



How then, are we saved and what are we saved from?

“If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9

These are not “magic” words, but a longing to know God, to change, to understand our purpose for being here. The gift of salvation is the ultimate gift of grace from God that we receive when we accept and believe in Jesus by faith, repent of our sins, and ask Him into our life as Lord and Savior. We become a new creation in Christ Jesus, the old goes away. He gives us the Holy Spirit who dwells within, and works in each of us, to live a life that glorifies and worships God and not ourselves, or others. The Spirit leads us into truth, empowers us to live righteously, producing Christ-like character, convicts us of sin, teaches us and seals us as God's children.

We desire the things of God and His will, over our own. God's written Word, the Bible, makes His will known.

And we follow the teachings and example of Jesus, who is the physical manifestation of God's Word.

We are saved *from* eternal damnation *to* eternal life with God. Heaven or hell? It is our choice, we have free will.

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

Jesus died to bridge the gap of separation (because of sin) between us and God the Father, who is Holy.

Jesus paid our debt once and for all, so that through Him, we would be made righteous before God. He covered us.

We do not deserve this gift of grace (unmerited favor), we cannot earn it. It is offered by a merciful and loving God.

Jesus is the ONLY path to eternal life and the Father.

It is when we accept this gift that we begin living life IN and THROUGH Him, by the Spirit of God.

“Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone. Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:11-12

Life *in* Christ is worshiping and gloryifying God in the life we lead. It is loving God first, then others as ourselves.

Love is demonstrated by what we do, it is sacrificial, it is how Jesus lived and died for us.

Love is shown by sharing the good news (gospel) of Jesus Christ with people, obeying God's Word, serving others, helping those in need, praying for others, giving of our time and resources to others.

These investments are lasting, taking time and effort, they are spiritual treasures stored in Heaven.

Some may say, “How boring, or constricting.” To this I say, “Not even! Hold on because God has a plan for your life. He will equip you and lead you to a life and deeds that only He could make possible.

He may lead you far away or keep you right where you are.

He makes His Almighty power known through weak and broken vessels such as we are.

Remember a young teenage shepherd boy who slew a great warrior giant, and later became a king?

Are you walking this journey of life spending time *in* and with Him or without Him? Some may say, “Religion is not for me, been there done that.” To them I say “AMEN!” Religion wasn't for Jesus either. Why?

Because religion comes from man and not from God. Religion is centered on man's rules, man following man.

“I follow this man, I follow that church, I follow this philosophy, I follow science,” “Do this, don't do that.” “You must earn your way, be good enough, measure up (to our rules) or you will not be accepted.” WHO WANTS THAT?

None of us measure up, we're human and we *all* sin. We hear it often, “There are many paths to God.”

Again, God's Word tells us plainly that there is only one way to the Father and eternal life. His name is Jesus.

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through Me.”

John 14:6

Day of the Lord - seventy times seven - time and time again - now is the time of salvation - my times are in Your hands - about that day or hour no one knows. -

a time to mourn and a time to dance - for a time such as this - time to be born - time to die - time to plant - time to sow - time to reap -

Jesus said, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32

The popular thing we hear these days is, "That is your truth, but my truth is different." That is a lie and is not a logical argument! Truth is not relative and does not change with the whims of man. JESUS IS Truth and God's Word, the Bible is Truth. It is God-breathed, living and active, timeless and relevant for living today as throughout time.

"God is not a man, that He should lie, or a son of man that He should change his mind. He has said it, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not fulfill it?" Numbers 23:19

The word "Christian" does not mean a religion. Christian means "follower of Christ" or "one who belongs to Christ." As Christ-followers, we have new life in Christ. New life is a completely new spiritual condition, where the old things pass away, and new desires, a new way of living and thinking, new purposes, a new identity, and an eternal perspective, come into being. Do we fail, do we make mistakes, do we sin? The answer is, yes we do. Surrendering our own will to God's will is a daily decision. He does not take away our free will and the old nature rears it's ugly head but has no power over us unless we allow it. The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, reminding us that we belong to Christ. If we repent, (turn and go the other way), asking God for forgiveness, He is merciful and gracious to forgive us. Does grace give believers a license to continue sinning? The Apostle Paul answers this question below:

"What shall we say then? Are we to continue to sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?" Romans 6:1-2.

What is the point of sharing these things with you and reminding you of the quick passage of time? It's pretty simple. None of us knows what each day will bring, how much time we have on earth. We don't get a "do-over." So, don't waste time, and don't wish it away - you cannot get it back! I'll do it tomorrow..... As always, the Bible puts things into perspective:

"You don't even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? It is a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." James 4:14

Consider eternity! Living life in Christ, as a Christ follower, is where true joy and peace is found. Cherish the time you have with your children, family and friends, and choose to love and serve others.

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:36-39

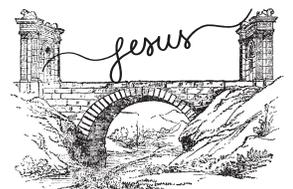
We are busy and more busy, I am guilty of this. Being busy does not necessarily mean being productive or accomplishing things that matter. Getting off of the ever-turning hamster wheel means re-evaluating how we spend our time and prioritizing what is most important. What is the main focus of your time?

Don't blink! Your kids will be grown. Don't regret! Why did I, why didn't I? Now it's too late. Love God, love others, live life with gratitude, thankful for what God has provided you, for everything comes from Him. Most of all.....

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, disregarded its shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of God." Hebrews 1:2

Soon, you will shake your 75 year-old head and say, "Where did the time go?"

- Sue Lapple



"And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book - Jesus - Revelation 22:7 - time, times and half a time -"

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End" Jesus - Revelation 22:13

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS!



We could not operate without you!

Thank you Salvation Army and Anthony Rivera for your generous donation of supplies to MCA!



Thank you Valley Presbyterian Women's Ministry Group for shopping and donating many needed supplies!

These ladies are troopers



Three wonderful volunteers, Miss Barb and Miss Sally helping Kindergarten students Kahea and Ezra with their letters. (left) Miss Sandy with them on dress-up day. (right)



Volunteer Miss Missy making lunchtime fun with kid jokes, a learning story and some science



Volunteer Mr Rick with K-1st grade students at lunch.

Mind your manners!
Mr. Rick is a strict one



TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Mesquite Baptist Church donated personal gift baskets to the teachers at MCA. Each basket was different and contained nice gifts chosen and paid for by members at Mesquite Baptist Church. The gifts were presented by Pastor Chris Wall and his lovely wife, Victoria.

What an unexpected blessing!
(Five teachers were not present for picture)



Thank you to Bill and Becky Coles for providing pizza every month for Pizza Friday!

It's a favorite here.

Thank you to Kathy Bakken for providing many needed supplies to MCA each month!

Volunteers Mr. Rick (left), Miss Tracee, and Mr. Rick, (yes there are two Mr.Ricks), and two Miss Barbs.' Lunch duty with the K-1st grade class.



MCA Student Tree

donated to VVHS FFA for their fundraiser. Most ornaments made by our students. Decorated at the Holiday Inn Resort by Sonia, Jasmine, Mateo, parents Cisco & Esmeralda and Mrs. Lapple. MCA tree awarded as Best by the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce. We were chosen because our tree was a reminder of being a child at Christmastime.

Nice work MCA students!

We are blessed to have many more volunteers and donors not pictured here.

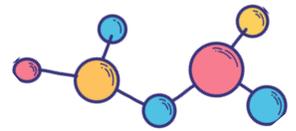
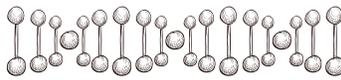
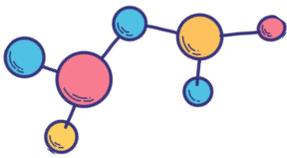
Several churches in town support us in various ways: River Valley Bible Church, Valley Presbyterian Church, Christian Community Church, Mesquite United Methodist Church, Living Waters Fellowship, Mesquite Baptist Church.

We have some businesses and many individuals who are generous supporters.

Our volunteers give their time on the playground, at lunchtime and recess, at the front desk, organizing, cleaning, and tutoring.



A BIG HEARTFELT THANK YOU!



High School Chemistry & Physics Mr. Cisco's class

Teagan, Elena, Christopher,
Gavin, Mr. Cisco,
(Rea not pictured)



High School Chemistry & Physics
Creating the
Periodic Table Elements
from "Snap, Crackle and Pop"
(a very old rice crispy commercial).



Finished!
Presenting the Elements



Gavin, Chris, Elena, Teagan
Created from rice crispy treats,
frosting, and diligence.
TO BE EATEN LATER!



Checking out how weight and slope
affect velocity, direction,
and distance.

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$



ELENA



GAVIN

Discussing the elements on the
Periodic Table they used in the
making of their elemental treats.



TEAGAN



CHRISTOPHER

Mrs. Rogers K-1st grade students.
Many fun and creative projects!

LEARNING PROJECTS

Mrs. Sappington & Mrs. Mannen's
2-3rd grade class.



Jaylyn, Kahea, Benjamin,
Ezra, Mateo

IT'S TRUE...
A PICTURE IS
WORTH
A
THOUSAND
WORDS!



The domino effect



Silas & Andrew



Jaylyn & Ezra



Karoline & Andrew



Amelia, Iris, Sonia, Karoline,
Andrew, Silas



Sterling's (4th grade)
pipe-cleaner specs.
New frames
anyone?



Matthew, Jay, Mailo, Raiden
Addie, Jaydyn



Music with Miss Janson



The Armor of God verses with
Mrs. Mannen



MESQUITE FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



Firefighters Nozzles and Logan Teaching the students about Fire Safety



Firefighters Mango and Nozzles on Fire Engine with Jaylyn, Benjamin, Mateo, Ezra and Kahea. K-1 Grade



Firefighter Mango and Nozzles with 2-3rd graders: Andrew, Amelia and Iris.



Firefighters Mango and Nozzles with Sterling, Emma, Cassandra, Octavia. Grades 4-5



Firefighters Mango and Nozzles with Jayden, Matthew, Raiden, Jay, Mailo. And Addie in the driver's seat! Grades 6-8



Firefighter Mango helping Benjamin with Emma following.



AN AFTERNOON AT THE DONKEY MUSEUM



2nd-3rd grade
Front L-R Iris, Sonia
Back - Andrew, Silas, Amelia



2nd-3rd grade teachers
Left: Mrs. Sappington
Right: Mrs. Mannen

The Donkey Museum staff welcomed our students on this fun and interesting visit.



An Army Jeep ride



“Dress Up Like Your Favorite Book or Movie Character”

The school voted for 1st-4th Places



Raiden, Matthew,
Jay (1st Place),
Jaydyn

Amelia (4th Place tie),
Iris, Andrew (2nd Place),
Silas, Sonia



Octavia, Kassandra,
Sterling, Emma (3rd Place)



Teachers:
Mrs. Sappington, Mr. Johnson,
Miss Janson (4th Place tie),
Mr Fleming



Jaylyn, Benjamin,
Mateo, Ezra, Kahea



“IMAGINE A DAY WITHOUT WATER”

In a Business

Virgin Valley Water District Annual Art Contest

WINNERS!

WINNERS!



1st Place Video
Amelia Thomas
with sister Kahea,
Raindrop and
Miss Natalie



2nd Place Video
Mateo & Sonia Luevanos,
Raindrop and
Miss Natalie



**Honorable Mention
Artwork**
Andrew Knutsen,
Raindrop and
Miss Natalie



**Honorable Mention
Artwork**
Iris Timinskas,
with sister Ava,
Raindrop and
Miss Natalie

**WELL
DONE!!!**



MCA Support Group
Families, classmates, teachers,
taking up the majority
of the room.

**WAY TO
GO!!!**

This is an annual contest for every
school in Mesquite and
Bunkerville;
including the middle school and
high school.
Entries are not judged by grade,
but by content.



Commander Deborah presenting award to Alex.

EXCELLENT WORK ALEX!

Alessandro Luevanos representing MCA, winning the American Legion's National Oratorical Constitutional Speech Competition at the local level. Alex now moves on to the district competition in Las Vegas on January 31. There are monetary prizes at each level. If Alex wins the district level, he will compete at the state level held in Las Vegas this year. After the state level is the national competition, held in Michigan at Hillsdale College. The national winner receives a \$25,000 scholarship for education after high school.

WESTERN DAY



Teachers and students

MCA CHRISTMAS PROGRAM BLESSES MANY

Mesquite Christian Academy's Annual Christmas Program



Grades K-5th giving it their all worshipping the Lord and celebrating Jesus at our Christmas program held at River Valley Bible Church in Mesquite. The students practiced three days a week, from August until December, learning the songs, solos, and their scripture verses so well, they needed no visuals for the program. Miss Amanda Janson did a superb job directing the students and the program. She created a productive learning environment with the students learning some fun voice exercises to warm up the vocal cords and stretch the range from low to high. The program consisted of four songs, four solos, and four scripture verses recited by students. The church was about filled with family and friends. Many thanks to the music team at River Valley Bible Church for all of your work!

GLORIFYING THE LORD WITH A JOB WELL DONE!



Ezra

Students in-Flight... (almost)!

A cold day on the rope with Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Mannen turning.



May 2025



Octavia



Sonia & Iris



Mateo



Benjamin



Andrew

GOODNESS OF GOD

A song of worship written by Jenn Johnson, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram and Ben Fielding



I love you Lord
Oh your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God.

All my life you have be faithful
All my life you have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love your voice
You have lead me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known you as a father
I've known you as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

All my life you have been faithful
All my life you have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give you everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me



SUPPORTING MESQUITE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

At Mesquite Christian Academy, we're all about creating a culture of generosity. We don't ever want a donor to give out of obligation or feeling compelled to do so, but rather, we want our community to give not out of guilt, but out of *goodness* - the goodness of all that God has freely given you. A good biblical standard is 1 Corinthians 9:7.

"You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

The Apostle Paul used the analogy of generosity to teach his protege Timothy, how giving enriches both the recipient and the one who gives. Concerning those who have resources that can benefit others, Paul told Timothy, *"Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life."*

1 Timothy 6:17-19

There are many ways to give to Mesquite Christian Academy, and they are all listed below. A tax-deductible gift **of any amount** to MCA is an investment in the lives of students - not just now, but for all eternity. Your generous donation will make a huge difference in shaping lives to be leaders, and shaping hearts to be holy. Think about it. Pray about it. And for whatever gift or pledge made to Mesquite Christian Academy, thank you so much!

God's Richest Blessings,
Jeffrey Bird
Founder and President
Mesquite Christian Academy

TO DONATE ONLINE:

Visit our website at: www.mesquitechristianacademy.org
Click the  **Donate** on the upper left, red Home Screen,
or click **Help MCA** on the top right main menu.

*We
thank
you!*

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