



CONCORDIA ACADEMY
NEWSLETTER
October 2022



News and Notes

“Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”

As our students find themselves 8 weeks into the school year, they are diligently preparing a Latin chant to share with our guests at CAW’s 2nd Annual Evening of Music. We have a wonderful program of musical performances to share with the community, and we invite you to join us on Friday, November 4th at 7:00 pm at Immanuel. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall, and a freewill offering will raise money for lockers, rolling tables and chairs, and scholarships.

Upcoming Events

- Oct 28 – School Field Trip
- Oct 28 – Rehearsal for Evening of Music
- Nov 4 – Evening of Music
- Nov 11 – No School Veterans Day
- Nov 13 – Board Meeting
- Nov 21-25 – No School Thanksgiving Break

Concordia Academy – Wichita Shooting Team

We are excited to move forward with our competitive shooting team. To raise funds for our team to begin competing, our students will be raffling off a Savage Arms Stevens 555 16ga shotgun. Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$10 each beginning Friday, October 21 with the winner being announced on Friday, February 3. If you would like to purchase a ticket please contact a student or the CAW office at 316-202-8989

Join Us Daily for:

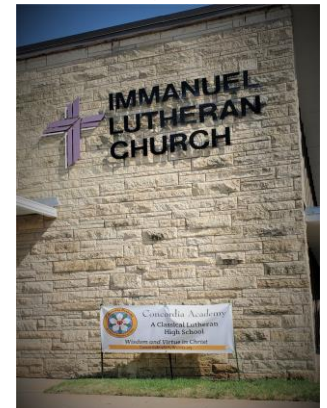
- 8am Matins
- 3:15pm Vespers
- 11am Wednesday Divine Service

CAW Out and About

Mr. Snyder had the privilege of representing CAW at the Kansas District Pastors Conference October 2-4 and the Kansas District Educators Conference on October 9. It was wonderful to share information about Kansas’ first and only full-time Lutheran High School.



909 S. Market St
Wichita, KS 67211



Our mission statement:

Concordia Academy seeks to form students in faith, hope, and love, by heeding wisdom and practicing virtue, restoring souls in the pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty, according to the Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions.

FROM THE DESK OF THE HEADMASTER

Thy Word is a Lamp unto my Feet



On the occasion of a tour through the campus of Harvard university with a group of classical high school students, a remarkable exchange occurred. Our tour guide, a young psych major at Harvard, had brought us through the cruciform shaped main hall, replete with Latin quotes and references to the great sacrifices of Americans from the wars of Revolution through the Civil War and beyond. The interest of the students in these inscriptions was answered by our guide with a disregard for a “dead language.” When we finally ended our inspection of the place at a monument to the founding of the university and John Harvard, a dissenting minister of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, we were told that this was all a sham. Our guide denied that Harvard had anything to do with the original purpose of the school as a seminary. On the same plinth our students saw the famous three books of the Harvard seal, with the Latin word *veritas*. Having just explained that all details of the founding of the school were lies, our guide was irritated with our students who exclaimed in unified amazement, translating the word on the memorial as ‘truth’! The cultivated ironic attitude of the modern Ivy Leaguer jangles with the older purpose of education. Our guide disappeared without a farewell, like a conjured imp.

Because human beings are born into a state of utter dependency and helplessness, fathers and mothers must educate their children. This unavoidable activity of education has been rationalized by many great minds in the past. Is it in order to form more perfect citizens? Is it to ensure that great minds arise in order to lead future generations? Is it to advance the human race and its domination of nature? Melancthon, Reformation scholar and companion of Luther, in *On the Role of Schools* (1543) used the metaphor of the lamp in order to help us understand the necessity of education so that able minds may converse upon and sustain the position of the Word of God among us. He explained that the state, civilization, is like a lamp, and the Word is the Light itself that comes from that lamp. Without the Light, the lamp is a ridiculous dead weight to be held aloft in darkness. Without a lamp, the Light is not housed, protected, and lifted up in order to allow safe travel in darkness. Schools are necessary, and their connection with the Word imperative. The family vocation of education makes the vocation of the state effective so that the Word in the vocation of the Church may be held aloft, illuminating our conversation with each other and God. The early American Puritans understood this, and so did the Lutheran immigrants to America, fleeing the pointless domination of a dark lamp, the rationalist totalitarian state in Germany in the age of reason. How ironic indeed that this movement in Europe came to be called *die Aufklärung*, “the Enlightenment” that culminated in the banishment of God from creation and his creatures, casting a long and violent shadow over subsequent centuries.

As the educational project stumbles in our own time, it is clear that without a vision, the people perish. Our vision must be Christ, who alone has the words of life.

- DAN SNYDER, HEADMASTER CONCORDIA ACADEMY - WICHITA

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