



CONCORDIA ACADEMY
NEWSLETTER
December 2022



CAW's First Father Daughter Night Out

On Friday evening, December 9 we celebrated our first Father Daughter Night Out event. Each of our young ladies and their fathers spent the evening enjoying each other's company and the fellowship of additional friends at Vora European Restaurant on Douglas. This is just the first of many events we hope to celebrate as we continue to grow.

News and Notes

Save the date for our open house on February 4th, 2023, which will also kick off the opening of enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year! From 10:00-12:00 there will be a come-and-go event, where attendees will have the opportunity to meet our headmaster, Dan Snyder; receive information and ask questions; and take tours of our facilities. At 12:00, we will be serving a light lunch and showing the first two episodes of "The Miseducation of America." If you would like to join us for lunch, please RSVP so we can plan for the food. Invite friends and spread the word!

Ways to Support CAW

Are you a Thrivent Choice member? Did you know you can select Concordia Academy - Wichita for your Thrivent Choice dollars? Search for us in Thrivent's online catalog.

Do you shop Amazon? Don't forget to use AmazonSmile and select Concordia Academy - Wichita as your support organization!

Are you a Dillons customer? Choose us as your Dillons Dollars recipient through their Dillons Community Rewards program.

Finally, don't forget about our up and coming competitive shooting team through the MidwayUSA Foundation. Our team is able to accept donations by going to midwayusafoundation.org and entering our Team ID (R24442) in the Find a Team section under Team Endowments. Each donation is matched by the MidwayUSA Foundation.

RAFFLE TICKETS! If you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets for the 16-gauge shotgun our students are raffling off to help fund the competitive shooting team contact the office at 316-202-8989.

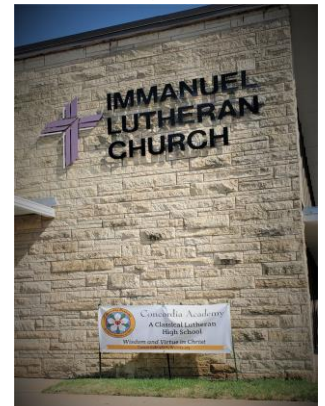
Upcoming Events

- Dec 14-16 Finals
- Dec 17 – Student & Faculty Christmas Dinner
- Dec 21 – Last Day of First Semester
- Dec 22-Jan 3 – NO SCHOOL Christmas Break
- Jan 4 – Second Semester Begins

Join Us Daily for:

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

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

VOCATION: A Lutheran Distinctive



As time goes on, paradoxes are multiplying all around us. We have always understood ourselves in America as dwelling in the land of opportunity but have lately been told that we are participants in a land of oppression. We are people who live in a public covenant that guarantees our right to free speech but have been shown that this only applies to those who say what everyone ‘should’ say. We have lived as if marriage was purely a personal choice, that we must constantly ‘be in love’, and that children or God have no part of the matrimonial covenant, and now we find that marriage is whatever we say it is, meaning it is nothing after all. We had heard that human sexuality must be freely expressed, only to find that people are now trapped in their sexuality, and driven to express it relentlessly, leading children to mutilate themselves in hopes of reaching this pinnacle of freedom. We believed that we were rewarded by our energies expended to better the state of ourselves and our fellow man by engaging in honest work, only to find that we must deny the needs of our neighbors in order to serve the planet earth. Inconsistencies arise when ethical assumptions, the basic propositions of truth that we use to justify our behavior in every moment, turn out to be false.

When I went to Marine Combat Training, an introduction to infantry skills required of every new Marine, I was introduced to the compass. This device responds to the magnetic field of the earth, providing a needle that points to magnetic north. True North, the position of the axis of the planet, varies by a small amount. Were one to start on a hike of several kilometers trying to reach certain coordinates on a map, but mistakenly be following a vector slightly deviating from the true course, the initial errors for the first few legs of the journey would be small. In a short trip, small errors in reckoning make little difference, but if the line is extended to great distance, a difference of a fraction of a degree results in a wide error. A slight misapplication of truth will show up as a gross contradiction in the long run. The way of foolishness leads to death.

One such magnetic reckoning point was given to us as children in America: “You can be whatever you want to be.” This assurance was repeated by parents and teachers constantly, thus becoming the theme and organizing principle of our education. This idea is in the bedrock of our pioneering forefathers’ experience coming to this land and reaches back into the reformation itself as people turned toward a more personal experience of God through direct contact with the scriptures. The saying is also the underlying assumption of classical economics and labor-based prosperity, and so finds a home in free market economics. To be fair, the teachers repeating it were probably not stating it comprehensively, as in “you can be a girl if you were born a boy”, but as with all approximate truths, the consequences of general assumptions become more and more deadly as they are lived out. This saying is also part of the equipment of ‘self-actualization’, or the idea that man is a creature on an evolutionary path of discovery, and not only will whatever can be imagined come to pass, but that these things really *should* come to pass. This extends to modern sociology and the striving of class against class for superiority, and subsequent intersectional expressions of ‘self-hood’, with the great hunt for victims to champion. We are not at peace.

What can a Lutheran education provide in correction of this error? In the Lutheran focus on vocation, we see the converse view and guidance. As creatures who are not autonomous, we are called *vocatus* (Latin) into being. We are not an accidental occurrence working toward realization but are rather a coherent completeness in danger of dissolution, sent into the world in a specific way, part of a particular family in a certain moment of time and place. Existentialists would say that this is a violent ‘throwing’ into the world, but the pious would say that it is an aimed pitch. The Lord brings each of us about through His providential action, and we should faithfully seek His will and grow into what He calls us to be. Soren Kierkegaard, a Danish thinker, described the despair inherent in struggling to ‘become something’, or the despair of refusing to become what you suspect you must be, either position resulting in futility. The path of resolution in this paradoxical dilemma is the path of obedience in Christ, obeying Him as he calls you forth, just as He did those ‘fishers of men’ so many years ago. It is not up to disciples to become whatever they can imagine, to escape some sort of oppression or to evolve to a higher form or consciousness. They simply follow.

- DAN SNYDER, HEADMASTER CONCORDIA ACADEMY - WICHITA