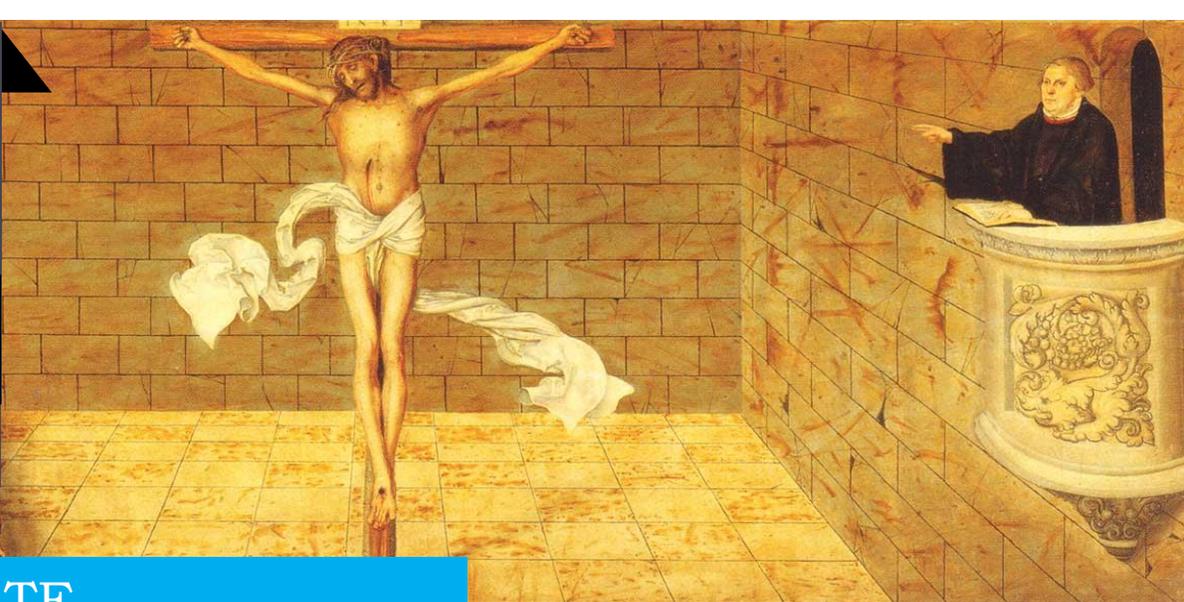




CONCORDIA ACADEMY
NEWSLETTER
July 2022



Progress UPDATE

Dear Friends of Concordia,

Things are really happening fast for Concordia Academy these days! Our enrollment continues to increase, and even though there is still a lot to do to, we are getting excited as our first day of school approaches. It seems like every day we discover a new task that has to be done, a new form that has to be filled out, a new item that has to be purchased, and so on!

Our headmaster, Dan Snyder, is very busy and hard at work hiring more part-time teachers, refining the curriculum, putting together book lists, recruiting more students, attending conferences, and much more. Our board members have been busy buying and picking up furniture, making continued arrangements for our marketing campaign, thinking about this year's upcoming fundraisers, applying for grants, refining the budget, continuing to discuss policy details, and much more. Volunteer librarian Susan Christ is working on setting up the school library. Board vice president Amanda Carter stepped down from that office and assumed the role of Administrative Assistant. She is already doing a great job getting more of our ducks in a row.

The effort to build a school like Concordia Academy truly takes a community. We know that God's guidance is ultimately the key to our success, so we thank you for your prayers. Word of mouth is also much appreciated. If you feel led to make a financial gift or pledge, we would be thankful for that as well. Our minimum enrollment goal (5-8 students) has been surpassed (praise God!), and we need more part-time teachers than we had planned on. These teachers, whom we intend to introduce in next month's newsletter once we have finished the official hiring process, will be a great asset to the school going forward. If you can help us meet this budgetary challenge, we would be very grateful.

We have new emails set up for our faculty and staff to reflect our Concordia Academy - Wichita domain name. To contact general school information email: CAW_info@concordiaacademywichita.org. To reach our Headmaster, Dan Snyder: d.snyder@concordiaacademywichita.org. And to reach our Administrative Assistant, Amanda Carter: a.carter@concordiaacademywichita.org.

Please continue to pray for wisdom and direction for Concordia Academy, especially as regards publicity and enrollment. Thank you for your continued support!

Upcoming Events

August 8- Faculty and Staff report
August 14 – Board meeting
August 17-19 – Student Orientation
August 22–First day of school

Contact us!

At Immanuel Lutheran Church
909 S. Market St., Wichita, KS 67211
www.concordiaacademywichita.org

Updated Email!

CAW_info@concordiaacademywichita.org
(316) 202-8989

How to Support Us

Concordia Academy, Wichita can now be found at AmazonSmile. A portion of each purchase you make through AmazonSmile will be donated directly to CAW.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/83-0721182>

“Like” us on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/concordiaacademywichita>

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 HEADMASTER SNYDER

Great nations write their autobiographies in three manuscripts, the book of their deeds, the book of their words and the book of their art. Not one of these books can be understood unless we read the two others, but of the three, the only trustworthy one is the last” - Attributed to John Ruskin

Letters at Concordia: Literature and History

Why read so many books, when one can look up any facts about history one cares to on Wikipedia? This question may lurk in your mind when you think of the piles of books that keep washing up on the shores of life, year after year. You might also think, “shouldn’t we read the most up-to-date books, since they have a clearer idea of what is really happening?” In the first case, reading history on Wikipedia, you would be encountering what is commonly said by people of our time about people of another time, and in that case, you would get knowledge without understanding. It would be like being able to identify a glazed donut without ever having tasted one. You might know that many people seem worked up about them, but you wouldn’t know why. This would be flavorless history, and a good reason why many people think history is dull. This is because history is really the result of something else and isn’t entirely something like ‘data’ or ‘evidence’. It is our impression of the residue of experience. I know this must be disconcerting and not very objective, but Augustine’s point about the past not existing anymore is hard to get over. We need books, artifacts, and art to signal us in our present about what happened before as it passed away.

As we were thinking about books washing up on shore, seeming to come to us across an ocean of time, we could also say that the books closest to us are in the shallow water, and those in the distance are in the deep water. Of course, books written in our own time are easiest for us to understand, because it is almost like we wrote them ourselves. We don’t even have to get our feet wet. They tend to confirm our own impressions of life. Life in shared times makes many of our thoughts common to other people, like a conversation about the *Star Wars* movies and their inferiority or superiority to the *Star Trek* movies. Things written in more distant times are unfamiliar, like debates about the ‘asiatic’ style of rhetoric, and because of this they bring us new thoughts more reliably. Strange that the old should bring the new.

You may have heard that we live in an age of progress. If Lycurgus could travel today between Sparta and Athens, he would agree, and because of the distance of his time from ours, he might find us strange and new, perhaps until he really thought it over. It seems that time can travel in two directions. What we can know is that historically, people generally liked to get places faster, and over time, men labored to make that possible. Now we are in a great hurry, but it would be historically true to say that this is because mankind has always wished it so. Could we then infer that much concerning the future could be ascertained in the record of the past? Certainly. Unchanging themes and drives in the human mind persist over time and seeing these things by reading literature illumines the dark corners of our own thoughts, where perhaps we thought no one could guess what we were up to. God always sees all times, and the more literate man becomes, the more of providence in those times he can reliably see. As we read what others have written, and write that others may understand, we contribute to God’s great project of revelation.

What those of the past have left for us is a record. The record of man’s adventure reveals certain natural causes; the things that reliably happen because of other things, surprising human folly; the way people consistently take perverse paths toward unworthy goals, and the way God distributes his common grace and divine justice; what we sense as progress. We see the natural, the human, the divine, all writing a story that seems inevitable to us and unremarkable until we unroll it into the past. By the human and divine art of eloquence we have the privilege of taking part in many lifetimes in the span of one, unrolling the coiled present with its many unknown tensions. This unrolling is the study of letters. We study letters at Concordia Academy - Wichita.