



# COASTAL SCHOOL MINISTRIES

W I N T E R 2 0 1 8 Q U A R T E R L Y N E W S L E T T E R

## Hear How God Impacts Our Students' Lives

"One truth I learned this semester is knowing God is eternal life. This truth has impacted me because before this class I wasn't truly a believer. I didn't understand who God was before I began learning the Bible. Now my life has changed. I felt like a wall came crashing down between me and God. I finally became a true believer in Christ, which was the greatest thing that has ever happened to me."

*Kyrie, 9th grade*

"This semester in time release class I have learned a lot about our Lord. It has been one of the most eye-opening classes I have ever had. One thing that has really stuck with me is that God has a plan for everyone. This truth means that God specifically thought about every single person in this world. That's pretty amazing ... it has uplifted my spirit and changed my whole perspective on life. All of that time I spent worrying, not knowing what was going to happen in my life I should have been spending that time with Jesus, praying."

*Trista, 11th grade*

"This semester has taught me that God has a plan for everybody. My life has personally changed. The people I use to hang out with did bad things and weren't loyal to God. I signed up for this class because I wanted to change. I NEEDED to change. God really picks you up when you're down. When you don't have anybody to talk to, just talk to the only One who will never let you down. I love the person I'm becoming and can't wait to see what the future holds for me. I'm so much happier now that God's in my life."

*Lila, 10th grade*

"The greatest truth that I have learned this semester is that God is a loving and forgiving God. I have learned that God will always love us no matter what we do. No matter what we do God will always forgive us. This truth has comforted me a lot. This truth allows us to know that when we sin God forgives us if we ask for it and repent. This truth is also comforting because we will always be able to know that God loves us. That makes me comfortable spreading this truth to others because I know it's

true. I need to try and also spread this good news to others."

*Wilson, 10th grade*

"Christ was a very small part of my life. Seeing my Mom stay in her Bible and going to youth group on Wednesdays helped me experience Christ. I wanted to feel that peace all the time. My relationship with Christ is now really important to me because He helped make me feel like He is there for me, so I'm not alone and He helped me find peace. Feeling alone, angry, sad? Pick up your Bible and read!"

*Kaydense, 9th grade*

"I didn't really know what being saved was. I knew the difference between the devil tempting me and God telling me what I should actually do, but I wasn't really as involved with God compared to how I am now."

*Kasey, 10th grade*

"I've always known Jesus since I was little but didn't really have a

strong relationship with Him. I wanted to become closer with God and become a true follower. Jesus is the ruler on the throne of my heart. I need Jesus more than anything."

*Kylie, 9th grade*

"I would learn about the Bible on Sundays, but I would ignore God for the rest of the week. This past summer I went on a mission trip thinking I was right with God and that I was a 'good Christian.' I left there feeling like a completely different person. About a month after I got back I was baptized and it was one of the best days of my life. This Bible class really helped me to learn and study the Bible. I started getting into God's word by doing daily devotions and I realized that I am a lot happier. I know God is still working on me and I still have my struggles, but I try to remain faithful and trust in God."

*Myrisa, 9th grade*

### Aynor Middle School SEMESTER 1 REPORT

This brand-new program has already led eight students to salvation and opened the minds and hearts of all enrolled

Think of this as halftime. The first semester for Horry County Schools is in the books, including the inaugural semester for the Coastal School Ministries (CSM) released-time Bible education classes at Aynor Middle School.

And we're in the locker room reviewing the highlights, while looking ahead to strategies for Aynor Middle School's second semester and beyond, with teacher Jamie Owens and Aynor CSM board member Randy Hilburn.

#### ~ JAMIE OWENS ~

First-time teacher Jamie Owens shares how much the CSM ministry has become part of his life, even as early as the first few weeks into his first semester. Although he has 11 years experience in adult education, Owens never taught a class of middle schoolers. Regardless, he says that his mission in the classroom has always been "to bring children to the saving grace of Jesus and to strengthen the faith of those that have already come to Christ through a better understanding of His Word."

As you can imagine, that mission wasn't without its challenges. Some students, says Owens, were disruptive in the early days of the semester, but have grown in character and genuine interest in what the Bible has to say about their lives. "Now, they actively participate in lessons and many have come to me privately asking questions about salvation," he says.

Owens reports that, while there are students already saved, some know nothing about the Word and don't even have a Bible in their homes.

"The minds of these children at this age are so pliable and the enemy has led many astray through a vast array of media outlets," says Owens. "They need truth. They need God. When they hear the Bible taught, it affects them

*Continued on back*

# Aynor Middle School *Continued from front*

and you can see it in their eyes. They want something real to hold on to. Many are going through tough situations and I praise God that Coastal School Ministries is reaching out to them with these classes.

“I have learned to obey the spirit and reach out to each class in a different way,” he continues. “We must become all things to all men that some might be saved. We must adapt to their individual personalities and teach Jesus accordingly.”

Owens is honored to have led eight students to salvation this semester, praying a sincere sinner’s prayer with each one. He says, “Receiving Jesus as all their classmates watch is a task most adults would cower at, but with tears in their eyes, they stand up and publicly put their trust in Him.”

Which is what Owens does every day: trusts in Him. He asks for continued prayers from the CSM community. “If

this country is to turn back to God, this is where it begins,” he says. “Our young people need Jesus and I’m humbled and amazed that God has allowed this imperfect vessel to be a part of that ministry.”

## ~ RANDY HILBURN ~

Aynor CSM board member Randy Hilburn, who has been on the ground floor of this program in Aynor Middle School, had the privilege of substitute teaching the class for Owens and witnessing God working within his students.

One class that particularly stands out to him was on a reading in Genesis (7:1-16) that tells of Noah and the Ark, that the “Lord shut them in the ark,” and the direct correlation with John 10:9, in which Jesus says He is the door, or the only one way to heaven – just as there was only one way on the ark.


“One student really understood that because we had a direct discussion on the belief of the ‘many’ ways to heaven,” says Hilburn. “Her response was, ‘So we’ve been lied to?’ and then followed up with, ‘So Jesus is the only way.’ That was a priceless moment to me.”

That’s one of the many rewards Hilburn shares: knowing that young lives have been impacted by the gospel of Jesus Christ. The hard work of Hilburn and fellow Aynor board members Clint Hardwick, Keely Adams and Danielle Skipper have certainly paid off, after contacting 40 churches and fellow Christians throughout the community about the priceless opportunities of this CSM ministry.

“Getting to meet new Christians and serving with some of the most gifted and passionate believers that I’ve ever met has been such a joy,” says Hilburn.

To continue this program’s path to righteousness for these impressionable students, Hilburn says they could use more believers in the Aynor area to sign up to substitute teach classes in case the primary teacher cannot for some reason, to drive the bus so the teacher can stay focused on classroom time, (It’s only about a 400-yard trip and doesn’t require a CDL driver’s license.) and to serve as board members so they can propel this program into Aynor High School by finding the necessary financial support.

For more information on how you can volunteer or donate to the Aynor CSM, email Laurie Ferguson at [laurie@coastalschoolministries.org](mailto:laurie@coastalschoolministries.org).




## COASTAL SCHOOL MINISTRIES

# Annual Banquet

By Popular Demand!

**ALL STUDENTS. ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.**

Celebrate Student Program Leadership  
Rejoice During Student Performances  
Witness Student Testimonies in a Panel Discussion  
Encourage Student Handiwork at the Art Sale



**THURSDAY, MARCH 15**  
Doors Open at 5:30 p.m. • Dinner 6:00 p.m.

**LOW COUNTRY COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
4430 Murrells Inlet Road • Murrells Inlet

**Individual Reservations: \$35.00 each**  
**Table Sponsorship: \$250.00** (8 Seats)  
**Student, Parent and Teacher Sponsor: \$200.00** (6 Seats)

**For Reservations and Sponsorship information contact**  
Laurie Ferguson at (843) 902-1449 or [laurie@coastalschoolministries.org](mailto:laurie@coastalschoolministries.org)



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