

- Making Bible Education Part of Every Public School Day

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Our mission is to encourage and equip public school students in Horry County by teaching the truth found in God's Word. Released Time Bible Education is the only legal means by which Christian education is allowed during the public school day for 3 reasons: students must have parent permission; classes are held off campus; and no government funds are used to support Released-Time Bible classes. As a 501(c)3 non-profit, interdenominational organization, we are supported by generous donations from individuals, churches, and businesses.

## INSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Teachers and students completed their first semester and began with new elective classes on January 17th. It was a wonderful end, mixed with sadness, to a very fruitful and blessed fall semester. Students are now several weeks into the new semester and are now in their new elective classes, one of them being CSM. It is an exciting time as teachers, and students alike, are once again learning new routines and getting to know one another. For many students, reading the Bible and hearing the Gospel taught is their first encounter with the Truth of the Scriptures.

The past Semester ended with such amazing comments and stories from students from across the county as they completed their time in the Bible Releasedtime programs.

Ms. Wilson and Ms. Plummer, teaching students from North Myrtle Beach Middle were so excited that during the semester, 25 students received Christ as Lord and Savior and 33 re-dedicated their lives to Jesus. Many of their students professed that they were no longer ashamed to say that they were Christians! One testimony that blessed the teachers was when a 6th grade student, after accepting Christ as her Savior, stated that "If I had known I was going to cry, I would have worn my waterproof mascara!"



Socastee Middle 7th grade students upon the start of their last lesson spoke out saying "Awe, I wish their was more time—I don't want this to end." The teachers couldn't



agree with them more! **Ms. Kristen and Mr. Dempski** completed out the semester, as did the other CSM teachers, with Class Evaluation forms for the students to give their feedback and perspective on the semester. Here are more comments from students after completing the forms at each CSM location:

From **Myrtle Beach High students**...[After taking this class] "I am reading the Bible at home when I'm bored or praying with my parents/family. I learned a lot of the Bible that I didn't about but throughout this semester I feel great about this class."

"I've enjoyed all the lessons because I was able to learn more about the Bible than any other period of my life. I've been trying to involve Him in every part of my life."

[Since taking this class], I feel like I think more on my actions and words before I say or do it. I have felt like God has been on my mind consistently throughout the day. I would say it [my relationship with God] has gotten stronger because I feel like He's on my mind a lot."

MBH students gathered for a group picture to end out the semester with Mr. Pyer and Ms. Fitte , assisting, in that class.

## **more** Inside the Classroom

From **Socastee High students...**Since I've been taking this class, my thinking and attitude has been better. Decision making has changed the most; the way I think before making a decision really fast. I feel like mt relationship with God changed drastically after this class because it makes me want to start going to church and how I need God in my life more than I did before."

[I would encourage others to take this class because] "if you believe in God it's a good way to build your relationship, and if you don't [believe in God] it's a good way to learn and challenge your non-belief. My relationship with God has definitely changed for the better and has helped me also to teach others about Christ our Lord."

From **Forestbrook Middle students**..."I've been praying to Jesus to help me not to sin and to have Him in my heart"

"My favorite lesson in Bible class was the first lesson because it introduced me to the Bible."

From **Loris Middle students...Alex** said "This class is one of the reasons I am getting baptized (not pictured). I want Him to be with me and for Jesus to lead me."

[Since this class] "I have been more positive and grateful for everything. Hearing what Jesus did for me has made me less negative because I think about Him when I get negative. Learning about Jesus has changed my way of thinking as well as answered some of my questions."



Five students that were recently baptized from Loris Middle; Alison D., Sophia B., Brayson R., Devon F., and Kate D.

From Myrtle Beach Middle students...Since taking this class; "I look at what God would want, instead of what I would do"

"I have been praying at night and before I wasn't"

"I have been more thoughtful when making my decisions"







**Mr. Ellis** and **Mr. Lane,** teaching the **SHS students**, finished the semester and began the new semester with new students a couple of weeks ago.

Mr. Ellis summed it up for all CSM teachers:

"Many of our students that just left, profess to be believers in Christ. Please pray for wisdom for us as we continue to improve in connecting them to a local church, reaching their families, and helping them grow in confidence and assurance that they truly are in the faith."



## On Board



- The Board and Staff would like to welcome Tammy Hughes to our teaching staff! She'll be serving as one of our Aynor Middle School teachers.
- Executive director, Randy Hilburn will be making a strong effort the next 6
  months visiting churches, speaking to pastors and arranging speaking opportunities to bring awareness and gain funds for the ministry.
- The new curriculum was covered by the teachers as the new semester has begun.
- Follow ups will be made for those students, during the 1st semester, who
  professed faith in Christ and were baptized.

Teachers serving 9 Schools at 7 Locations for the Spring 2024 semester LMS/Lawndale— teachers Glen Stanley & Tony Hord AMS/Aynor building— teachers Lou Conklin & Tammy Hughes SJMS/Timberlake Baptist-teachers Kristen Prunier & Nathan Dempski SMS/Surfside Presbyterian-teachers Kristen Prunier & Nathan Dempski SHS/Palmetto Shores-teachers Nick Ellis & Austin Lane MBMS/Trinity— teachers Amy Fitte & Addison Craig MBHS/Trinity— teachers Richard Peyer & Vickie Wilson

NMBMS/North Strand—teachers Merissa Plummer & Will Renfrow NMBHS/North Strand—teachers Merrissa Plummer & Will Renfrow



- Need for Prayer Warriors for each CSM class and for the Schools they are coming from. We want to be in prayer for not only the students but for parents, teachers, administrators, staff, and school board members. We would like an organized prayer group for our students & schools.
- Need more Churches to come on board and to be monthly donors.
- Need for Increased Financial Support.
- Need for Prayer, Prayer and more Prayer!
- Goal for more exposure to the communities that are served by CSM.
- Goal to purchase another bus as CSM expansion continues.
- Goal to have the communities of Carolina Forest and Conway areas more involved with the CSM program.
- Goal to have another certified teacher on board by the 2024 Fall Semester.

## "I Thank my God Every Time I Remember you." Philippians 1:3

We are always so thankful for all of our

Churches, Businesses & Individual donors.

- Thank you Aaron Perkins, Youth Leader at Socastee Baptist, for speaking and sharing the Gospel to all SHS CSM students and for inviting students to church and to his youth group.
- ♦ Thank you to the **Surfside Presbyterian Church congregants** for collecting gift cards for the CSM student's family that lost their home in a fire.
- ◆ Thank you Nick and Austin for your additional work in adding New Testament lessons to the curriculum.
- Thank you to all school counselors as they worked through the new semester in scheduling classes.

# Ways You Can Support CSM Help Public School Students Learn the Bible

#### SHEPHERD a Student

All it takes is \$35/month (or as much as your budget allows)

Regular Budgeted Donations

Commitment to monthly support is God's

greatest provision and blessing!

### \*One Time Gift

\*Credit Card, visit www.coastalsm.com click the "Donate Today" link and you can select the box "Make This Recurring (Monthly)"

\*Check, mail your first monthly donation check to Coastal School Ministries PO Box 30329, Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

\*<u>Direct Draft</u> from your checking account. Contact us for more information.

**Donate Today** 



Happy Valentine's Day!