

Victory Village Christian Academy

Fifty-Three Years of Showing God's Unconditional, Healing Love to Teen Age Girls
Heart Ministries, Inc., 201 S. Victory Road, Burrton, KS 67020; Phone 620.463.6112; www.victoryvillagechristianacademy.org
Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Director; Bill and Carole Cowell, Editors & Administrators
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Merry Christmas from Victory Village Christian Academy

Celebrating the Birthday of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ



Jesus said, "I am the Light of the World. If you follow me, you will not have to walk in darkness, because you will have the LIGHT that leads to LIFE! (John 8:12)"

From our Director, Kelli Schwarz-Rump

It is hard to believe that it is already the last month of 2023! December is a fast month here at Victory Village since the girls go home to spend time with their families. So, we have to try and get as much as we can packed into only a couple short weeks in December.



November was a fun-filled month ending with a beautiful 11 inches of snow.



The girls had a lot of fun in the snow, building snowmen and having snowball fights.

We had our 2nd annual Quiz Bowl. We separate the girls into teams and they compete in an all-morning long quiz bowl. Each team is assigned a team color. The girls had a lot of fun figuring out what they could wear to support their team color for the quiz bowl. Topics were covered from every subject that is taught at Victory Village. It is a fun way to quiz their knowledge as well as to help prepare them for their upcoming finals. Team Pink ended up with the most points this year.



Congrats to **Sophia, Carolina and Phica** on their victory!



Team Green—
Essi, Alyssa



At the buzzer table,
ready to answer



Team Orange—**Mystery, Kalea and Lola**



Team Blue—**Brilee, Dustee, Ivy, and Jordan**



Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were wonderful Hosts. **Mrs. Hawkinson** played a great "Vanna" while **Miss Katy** was the judge assuring all rules were being followed. They were a great team!

The Basketball Team has been practicing hard and will begin competing in games once everyone returns from Christmas break. I'm sure it will be another exciting year of basketball here at Victory Village.

Please join me in praying for all of the girls at Victory Village and their families; that their Christmas season together is filled with love, joy and peace. Please also pray for the VVCA staff; that they each enjoy their Christmas break and get rested and rejuvenated for a new year. Thank you so much for all of the love and support that each of you pours onto this ministry.

Needs List

Paper towels – Rubber bands, paper clips, binder clips
Batteries AA and AAA – Liquid laundry detergent
Storage bags (sandwich, quart & gallon)
Trash bags – 13 gallon and 4 gallon
Large steel cooking pots
New Large Trampoline with safety net
New Shark Vacuum cleaners (we need 2)

Visit the Village....with Bill and Carole

Some Thoughts at Christmas!

The world is a turbulent place right now, but it is not a whole lot different than it was when Jesus was born. Society without God results in chaos. History records a series of wars and upheavals that human government has not been able to control. One may end, another begins, often simultaneously, and all reveal the greed, anger and selfishness of the human heart without Jesus. A quest for power, prejudice, pride, and selfishness, all play a part. These stem from sin in the human heart, but Jesus came to be our Saviour and show us a better way. So, what are we to do? Interestingly, some recent postings on Facebook give us some thought-provoking ideas.

Want to keep Christ in Christmas? Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, forgive the guilty, welcome the stranger and unwanted, care for the ill, love your enemies, and do unto others as you would have them do unto you!

We are not called to be like other Christians. We are called to be like Christ!

We do not draw people to Christ by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a LIGHT that is so lovely that they might want with all their hearts to know the source.

Corrie ten Boom said, "We must mirror God's love amid a world of hatred. We are the mirrors of God's love, so we must show Jesus by our lives."

Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God.

As the world fights to figure everything out, we should be holding doors for strangers, letting people cut in front of us in traffic, saying good morning, keeping babies entertained in grocery lines, stopping to talk to someone who is lonely, being patient with sales clerks, and smiling at those passing by. WHY? Because we should not stand

idly by and live in a world where love is invisible. Join us in showing kindness, understanding, and judging less. Be kind to strangers, give grace to friends who are having a bad day, and be forgiving, today and every day. Let us be the change and be the light, starting today and never stop!

There may be a lot of foolishness on Facebook, but it is a great way to permeate a part of society with messages of love, hope, encouragement, and with words of Jesus.

We are so thankful for our Staff, and the great job they are doing at VVCA. God has certainly blessed us with the best!

Here are **Kelli** and **Casey Rump** and their four children, **Madison, Kolten, Tregan** and **Raylin**. Kelli has been our Director for the past 12 years.



Kelli has put together a great team of workers, and led in making some great improvements to the Dormitory, the School, and our program in general. Kelli is also a great help with our relationship to the State of Kansas, working tirelessly to make sure our program and facilities are managed properly. For several years we have had no deficiencies during our annual state inspections. Since we are not funded by the State, but depend on donations for support, we are free to teach and practice our Christian faith.

We are also so thankful for our Therapist, **Dr. Jessica Kerzner**, and our Case Manager, **Kristi Colvin**.



Here is **Dr. Jessica Kerzner**, her husband **David**, and their three children, **Andrew, Graham** and **Amelia**. Jessica continues to be a great addition to our team, along with the good work of our Case Manager, **Kristi Colvin**. Their office is in our new building, along with the Woodworking shop and the Art room. Their being located here at Victory Village saves us many miles of time and travel between here and Newton.

Victory Village Christian Academy

Christmas – December, 2023



Our 53rd Year of Changing Lives for Jesus Christ and His Kingdom; Jesus said "I have come that they may have life and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

Our Mission is to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus. Inspired by His Gospel, we seek to make God's amazing love and compassion real to teenage girls, serving them without charge to their families by providing a clean and safe home, a good Christian and State certified education, nutritious meals, training in life skills, outdoor and indoor activities and sports, opportunities to be involved in the ministry of helping others, and an introduction to Jesus, who will love them forever. We affirm the worth of all, without prejudice, partiality or intimidation. **Victory Village Christian Academy** is located at 201 S Victory Road, Burrton, KS 67020, and is licensed by the State of Kansas, with State certified teachers and curriculum. Credits are transferable, high school diplomas are earned and recognized for entrance to colleges. **Rev. Bill and Carole Cowell, Founders and Administrators; Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Director and Principal; Katy Nininger, Athletic Director, Assistant Principal, Marla Johnson, Jerry Nininger, Larissa Hawkinson, Teachers; Barbara Hedges, Office Manager and Secretary-Treasurer, Wilma Engle, Accountant; Jessica Kerzner, Therapist; Kristi Colvin, Case Manager; Heather Smith, Dormitory Director; Jenna Weimer, Robin Traffas, Shannon Fitzgerald, Emily Moore, Amanda Herd, Janice Janzen, Karen Chaterton, Trinity Sampson, Cayleena Pilgreen, Elise Gaeddert, Grace Skiles, Lauren Holmes, Bri Neal, Becky Valdois, Ahneka Valdois, Kayla Felix, Brenda Shen, Dormitory Staff; Emma Foster, Cook; Scott Hilburn, Maintenance, Board of Directors: Bob Friesen, Chairman, Rev. Bill and Carole Cowell, Becky Goering, Larry Chapman, Gordon Goering, Rev. John Williams, Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Dr. Jessica Kerzner.**

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We invited the girls to our house for refreshments, as a special part of our Victory Village Christmas celebration.

HEART MINISTRIES, INC.
Victory Village Christian Academy
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We were invited by the **Buhler Mennonite Church** to join them in preparing meal packages for those who are hungry. Fifty thousand were made on a Saturday in November. **Menno Simons** of Holland (1496-1591), taught and modeled what true Evangelical faith should be—



doing works of love, clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, consoling the afflicted, sheltering the miserable, aiding the oppressed, returning good for evil, praying for those who persecute, binding and healing the wounded.

We enjoyed a delightful evening of music from a local group of men called **Hearts for Him**, along with Open House, having local guests and some coming from as far away as Salina and Hillsboro. Thanks to **Bob Friesen**, our Board Chairman, arranging for this fine group.



Here is **Bob Friesen** and his wife **Virginia**, the night of the Hearts for Him program. Thanks to all who have supported Victory Village Christian Academy with financial gifts and prayers in 2023! The end of the year is always an exciting time, celebrating Christmas, and enjoying the mail we receive, including gifts from many who send special year-end gifts. We are always prayerful and hopeful that these will be sufficient to enable us to finish the year with all our bills paid. Thanks for your support through, and at the close of 2023. We are full of expectations for the New Year that lies ahead, and appreciate your continued support. May God bless you all!