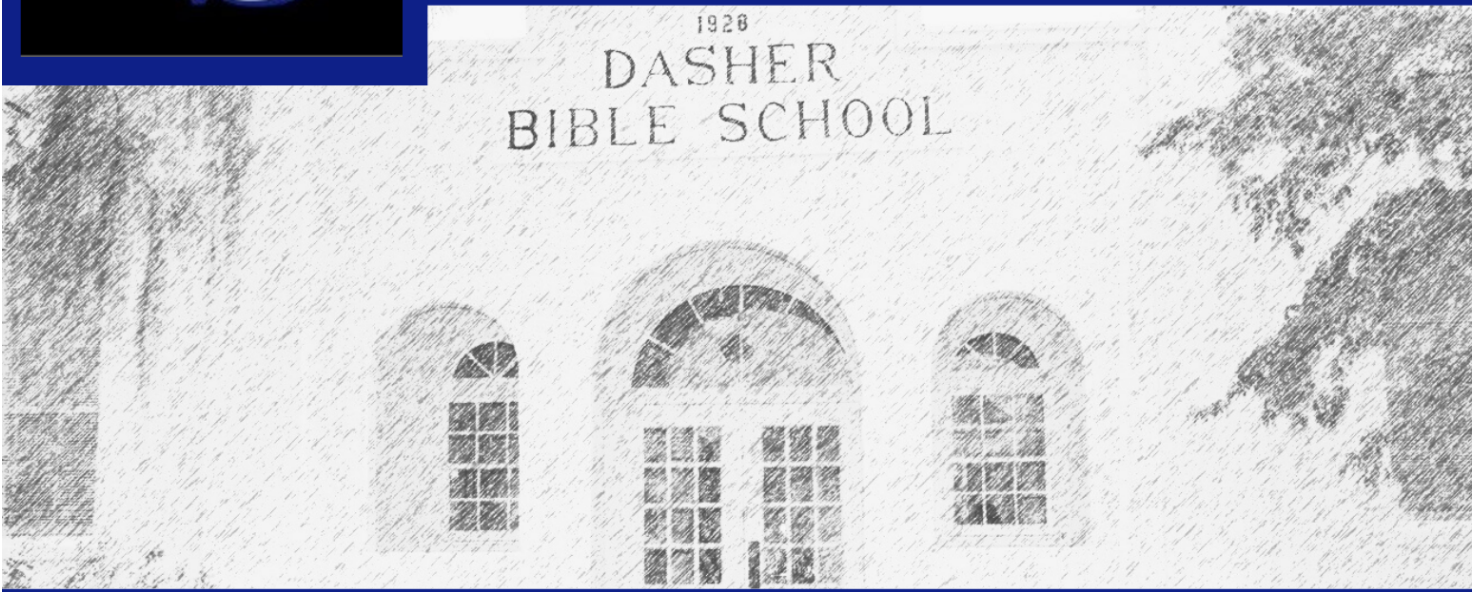




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THE GENERAL TIMES

GCS Alumni Association Newsletter



JOIN THE PRESIDENTIAL GIVING CLUB TODAY!

by Alumni Director Julie Dykes

You may not have noticed the announcement of our new and exciting Giving Program in last month's Alumni newsletter. It's so important that we have chosen to name it after some of the greatest presidents ever to serve at Dasher Bible School/Georgia Christian School. It's so monumental that just a modest amount each month (as little as \$15) can add up to a whopping \$180 donation over the course of the year!

The Presidential Giving Club is one of the newest and easiest ways to give back to Georgia Christian School. It allows you to "set it and forget it". You choose your level, make a commitment, and FACTS Giving does the rest.

We're so happy about it that we're all lined up to join here. Won't you choose your level and join us today? Go to www.georgiachristian.org and click on the Giving Page, then choose Online Giving. Click on the Donation Link, choose your amount, select the Presidential Giving Club, and make sure you click on "Recurring". Enter your information, then you're all set!

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BE A PART OF THE NEW PRESIDENTIAL GIVING CLUB

For as little as the cost of that Starbucks cup of coffee each month, you can help make a difference at GCS! Choose your level and the amount to auto-draft each month. Your gift can really add up...

- ~President J.P. Prevatt ('15) Level - \$100/month = \$1200/year
- ~President W.O. Norton ('39) Level - \$75/month = \$900/year
- ~President Lacey Elrod ('46) Level - \$50/month = \$600/year
- ~ President Prewitte "Brother C" Copeland ('53) Level - \$25/month = \$300/year
- ~President William J. Long ('61) Level - \$15/month = \$180/year



Every new member of the Presidential Giving Club will be mentioned in the next Alumni newsletter. My name will be mentioned. Will yours?



DAY OF CARING CAPS OFF A SEASON OF SERVICE PROJECTS

Our recent Day of Caring for Georgia Christian's Junior and Senior classes has capped off a season of service projects in our community. After a chapel service in which they read about how Jesus washed his apostles' feet, they went to Second Harvest of South GA and packed over 800 boxes of food for senior citizens.

But this is just the latest example of students serving others. In their "Random Act of Kindness" project the week prior, Interact students baked and delivered cookies

to the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office, Valdosta Police Department, and the Valdosta Fire Department.

The service did not stop there! The Valdosta Rotary Club Program in January was Hunger Fight, which packed over 17 million meals for hungry children in South Georgia and North Florida. After the program, several Rotarians and members of the GCS and VECA Interact Clubs packed some meals, too! Around 2500 meals were put together for local hungry children, putting into practice the Rotary/Interact motto of Service Above Self!



ALUMNI NEWS

1948

In loving memory of MARY LOUISE COPELAND MARTIN HORNER - Mary Copeland Martin Horner passed away Saturday, February 11 in Nashville, TN at the age of 87.

1956

In loving memory of SYLVIA DOWLING HIGGINS - Sylvia Higgins passed away on Saturday, January 28 in Valdosta, GA, at the age of 84.



1979

GREG BROWN - Retirement from City of Valdosta

2014

MATTHEW OKOLICHANEY - engaged to Kacie Kieffer

2015

BLAKE WINTERS - engaged to Reede Johnson

JAKE ELLIOTT - engaged to HALEY GARRETT '16

2016

ALLISON DASHER - graduated Faulkner University, Business Degree

HALEY GARRETT - engaged to JAKE ELLIOTT '15

COLSON & ELIZABETH CRIBBS GUTHRIE - new baby girl Eliza Bradshaw Guthrie born January 2, 2023

2018

HEIDI JONES - graduated University of Georgia, Marketing Degree

BRIANNA BOONE SANDLIN - married James Sandlin 1/1/2023

2019

KATIE GUEST - Top Sales & Design Associate, Rugs A Bound, December, January & February

2020

BAILEY WARREN - 2023 Sea Island Scholar, Terry Business School, University of Georgia

2022

KARSYN BLACK - new baby boy Knoxtyn Lee Black born February 9, 2023

2023

REAGAN LAWSON - accepted appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Geraldine McLeod Thompson '47
*Sarah Copeland '48
Patricia Dicks Lester '49
William J. Long '51
*Pat Avants Bishop '53
Jo Williamson Guest '53
Dr. Sondra E. Wilcox '54
Paul E. Harris '55
Martha Harris '55
*Donna Harvey McLeod '55
Barbara Wisenbaker Colson '56
*Jimmy Hightower '57
*Mary Jean Wisenbaker
Armstrong '58
Julian (Jubie) Copeland '58
James (JC) McMullen '58
*William Udell '59
*Harold W. Graham '60
*Charlie Copeland '62
*Charles (Termite) Phillips '63
Judy Jensen McMullen '65
*Elaine Graham Stacy '65
*Lynda Wilkins Lawlor '66
Brenda Darwin Johnson '67
Frankie Johnson '67
Cynthia Jean Watts '65
*Ellen Conway Williams '67
*Tommy Williams '67
Ron Copeland '68
Andrew Sykes '68
*Joan Andrews Winn '68
Mike Black '69
Patsy Hamm Black '69
*Ben Vick '70
*Jamie Copeland '71
*Gayle Sterling Lightsey '72
Donna Darwin Batchelor '73
*Lisa Force Lang '74
*Ginger Copeland Knowles '76
*Russell Knowles '76
Cathy Guthrie Lee '76
*Cindy Guthrie Horne '77
*Mike Horne '77
Linda Carol Johnson Brown '78
Greg Brown '79
*Kent Copeland '79
*Tammie Davis Bobbit '79
*Deland Guthrie '79
Cleta Colson Eyre '80
*Bonnie Barrett Guthrie '80

*Philip Guthrie '80
*Joey Redshaw '81
*Elsa Copeland Barnes '82
*Dottie Eckberg Redish '82
*Connie Colson Guthrie '83
*Lori Copeland Alley '84
*Denise Wright Hammitt '84
*Daphne DeWeese Warren '84
*Donald Dawkins '88
*Christy DeWeese Kilcrease '88
*Jason Chesser '89
*Lori Dawkins McGuire '90
Ellis Shiver '90
*Jon Sykes '90
Alison Sykes Cartee '93
*Michelle Bass Copeland '94
*Audrey Strange Dawkins '96
*Melissa Lee England '98
Nikki Copeland Warren '98
Sarah Fiveash Wickstrom '00
*Rebecca Thornhill Garbutt '00
*Terri Lee Orrell '00
Tony "Travis" Taylor, Jr. '00
*Kristin Horne Blount '01
*Vince Hamm '01
*Leanne Jenkins Hood '03
Heather Cobb Johnson '03
*Kristin Copeland Dykes '04
Lydia Thornhill White '04
*Nicole Renfro Olbricht '05
*Morgan Plyler Guthrie '05
*Katie Colson Plyler '06
*Nathan Renfro '06
*ShaCourtney Jenkins Thomas '06
*Austin Plyler '07
*Adam Guthrie '08
*Sarah Copeland Lynch '09
*Pamela Brown Kimbrell '10
*Georgia Thomson '11
*Augusta Guthrie '12
*Keaton Bentley '15
*Morgan Sykes '15
*Erin Copeland Swlley '16
*Lauryn Russell '17
*Lindsey Sykes Redmon '17
*Emmy Copeland '18
*Hunter Cardin '19
*Katie Guest '19
Grant Copeland '20
Kylie Greene Cardin '20
Evan Copeland '21

*Karsyn Black '22
Drew Horton '22
Christian Powell '22
Tiffany Taylor '22
Braylon Black '23
Seth Copeland '23
Casey Crowder '23
Austin Knapp '23
Reagan Lawson '23
Katie Moss '23
Katie Mullins '23
Heidi Rowan '23
Kaden Sanders '23
Ainsley Tucker '23
Austin VanAusdall '23
Liz Walden '23
Lindsey Warren '23
*Brad Lawson President
James Lee Faculty
Carol Naylor Copeland Faculty
Carol J. McLeod Faculty
Julie Dykes Faculty
*Michelle Iturralde—Faculty
Robert Jeffords - Faculty
Teresa Jeffords - Faculty
Kim Moss

**GCS NAMED
SCHOLARSHIPS**

Did you know that a named scholarship can be created for as little as \$10,000? See pg. 6 of this newsletter for more details...

~Coppage/Lester Scholarship (Established '22)
~Jack & Gwen Brogden Scholarship (Established '20)
~Tom & Lynn Walker Scholarship (Established '18)
~Mary L. Landis Scholarship (Established '16)
~Paul & Adene Baldwin Scholarship (Established '16)
~Adam McSween Scholarship (Established '16)
~Mary Louise Black Scholarship (Established '15)
~Dr. Donald P. Jouvenaz Scholarship (Established '00)
~Earl Edge Scholarship (Established '00)
~George & Eunice Copeland Scholarship (Established '99)
~Ray Jerkins Scholarship (Established '98)



In other sports, Coach Carrie Johnson brought her Lady Generals volleyball team to a three-peat Region Championship and came awfully close to a state championship.

Coach Mike Johnson took his wrestling team to all the way to nationals this year. It was a Georgia Christian first - nope, not the first wrestling team, but the first female wrestlers on the wrestling team, Katelyn Kotterman and Emilee Altman. Katelyn and Emilee did well enough to visit the 87th Annual National Prep Wrestling Championships in Marlboro, Maryland this year, another first for Georgia Christian!

THE TRADITION OF ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE CONTINUES

For many alumni, your memories of participating in athletics are among the fondest you have. The tradition of athletic excellence that has always been a part of Georgia Christian continues today.

Although we have a wide variety of sports available throughout the year, Generals and Lady Generals basketball will always be at the heart of our athletics program.

Even the youngest athletes get their start learning the fundamentals of their sport at VLPRA (Valdosta Lowndes County Parks & Recreation Authority) as early as K5. We are proud that our K5/1st Grade VLPRA Lady Generals, our 3rd Grade Generals, and our Middle School Lady Generals Teams were champions this year.

Bringing back a second-year championship this year, the Jr. Pro Lady Generals were the team to beat all season.

Both the Varsity Generals and Lady Generals saw some post-season play this year, but it was sophomore standout Benji Galindo achieving his 1,000 point mark this season that everyone will remember.



GEORGIA CHRISTIAN WRESTLING

NATIONALS





GCS: A WORTHWHILE INVESTMENT

Georgia Christian School has survived for 100 years because good people have been willing to give of their means. GCS has been the setting for countless memories of so many people throughout the world. As we stand on the shoulders of those who helped us get this far, we need your help to continue our founders' mission. When you give to our Annual Fund Endowment, our Scholarship Endowment, or towards a capital project, you can be sure that your donation is going to impact children's eternal destiny!

The Betty Louis Draughon Scholarship Endowment was established in 1996 in order to provide annual scholarships to students in need. Since then, several named scholarships have been added to the endowment. If you have wondered how you can help Georgia Christian School continue providing a Christian foundation, please consider a named scholarship. For a minimum gift to the Scholarship Endowment, a plaque of the named scholarship and date established will be added to the recognition piece in the lobby of the high school building. See page 4 of this newsletter for a list of named scholarships currently in place at GCS.

When you give to the Misty Hardin Annual Fund Endowment, you are ensuring that we can keep our tuition affordable, increase our teachers' pay and keep our programs up to date with technology and quality facilities. Our donors expect us to be good stewards of the gifts we receive.

The short and long-range plans of the GCS Board of Directors ensure that we continue to "live within our means" as we grow the school. Your gift will ensure the long-term viability of Georgia Christian School. Knowing the impact that the school has had over the last century, you can be a part of the next 100 years of impacting lives for Christ.

There are several ways to donate to the Misty Hardin Annual Fund Endowment. While cash gifts are the simplest and most common form of giving, gifts of real estate, securities, or insurance are also ways to donate. All of these provide potential tax-deductible savings. This can be accomplished through your estate planning as well.

You may also choose to donate towards capital projects. As improvements are made to the school via capital projects, they are only made possible through the generosity of donors like you. The vision of our leadership has provided measured guidance on our growth capabilities, and every dollar that we raise brings that vision closer to reality. You may learn more about our Strategic Planning for the school by visiting the About Us Tab on the school website, www.georgiachristian.org, then clicking on Master Plan.

Memorial donations can be made online in memory of someone who has passed on or in honor of someone still with us. On the school website, www.georgiachristian.org, click on the Giving Tab and follow the link to Online Giving to find out more.

