

**FEATURES**

- Pg 2 Honorary Gifts to PA
- Pg 3 Pictures from the Fall Family Festival
- Pg 4 Annual Scholarship Fund



*And the angels said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.*

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*

*And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.*

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,*

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

*Luke 2:10-14*



Jerry Williams,  
 School Administrator

**FOCUS: ENCOURAGEMENT**  
 By Jerry Williams

Is it possible to be a strong, classical, academically rigorous, college-prep school yet provide an environment full of love and encouragement? Or, is it possible to be a Christian school full of love and encouragement yet still maintain high behavioral and academic standards that challenge the students? I would give an affirmative answer to

both questions—but would also admit that it is not an easy thing to do.

Sitting in the school administrator’s chair can be an interesting place to sit when answering these two questions. Every month or so I receive comments suggesting that PA seems to be more “classical” than Christian and we need to show more love and encouragement to our students. Likewise, I receive comments that suggest we’re doing a wonderful job with the “Christian” part of educating the students but our standards aren’t high enough and the students aren’t being challenged enough. The key, of course, is finding the proper balance between both of

“Is it possible to be a strong, classical, academically rigorous, college-prep school yet provide an environment full of love and encouragement?”

*continued on page 6*

**PROVIDENCE SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTS SECONDARY DRAMA CURRICULUM WITH AN OUTSTANDING PREMIER OF ROBIN HOOD**



*photo courtesy of Anna Lewis*

# God is so Good!

By Mark Koscak, Director of Development



Many of you know the short history of our family festival. We had our first family festival this past spring as part of our Christian Storytelling Festival. It was held outside and was a great success. It was also the scene of a great miracle.

School Administrator Jerry Williams had the weather site in the background on his PC, and we would periodically watch as God parted the clouds and they went around Johnson City.

The weather was rotten that day from Nashville to the coast and the clouds were all around us. It rained during our festival in Piney Flats. It rained in Flag Pond. It rained in Gray. It rained in Bristol. It rained all around Johnson City. But at 2788 Carroll Creek the festival went on as planned and we had a great day!


The feedback was so positive that we decided to have an annual festival for the Providence family each fall. The date was set, the plans were made, and we moved forward towards October 24 with great anticipation.

Normally, when we plan these outside events, I don't worry a whole lot about the weather. I pray for

good weather and I don't start looking at forecasts until a few days before. However, this event was different. Monday morning I started to hear ominous weather reports for the 24th. Tuesday it got worse. I realized we couldn't count on another day where God would just part the clouds around Johnson City, just so that we could have a family festival. So, my prayer was, "God please make it clear as to whether we need to move it inside or not."

God is faithful. On Thursday morning, I turned on the weather channel and saw that the forecast for the 24th showed a 90% chance of rain in the afternoon. As soon as I got to school, I checked the NOAA weather forecast on the internet, and it said 100% chance of rain and heavy winds over 20 miles per hour in the afternoon. That was it! It was clear. We knew to move it inside!

The end result was that we received strong feedback that the event was even better inside than outside. So.....next year we will plan on doing it again..... inside!

Isaiah 58:11 "The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land..." 

## Congress Extends Opportunity to Give Tax Free from IRA if over 70 1/2

This law is especially helpful to those over 70 1/2 that have income from a number of sources and need to take an annual IRA distribution. IRA distribution amounts are fully reportable as part of adjusted gross income (AGI) even when making charitable gifts from these funds. The extended law gives the donor the opportunity to have their IRA administrator make charitable gifts directly from their IRA-- tax free.

Check with your financial advisor for questions.

### RECOMMENDED READING/VIEWING:

#### BOOKS:

Millstones & Stumbling Blocks

*by Bradley Heath*

Family Driven Faith

*by Voddie Bauchman Sr.*

#### MOVIE:

Ben Stein's - Expelled:  
No Intelligence Allowed

## HONORARY GIFTS TO PROVIDENCE

### *In loving memory of:*

*Mrs. Gealdine Atwood Bumgarner*

*Mrs. Nora Grace Lipford*

*Miss Peggy Treadway*

*Mr. Bobby Blair*

*Mr. Robert Burrow*

*Mr. Harold Ellis*

*Mr. Roy Ellis*

*Mr. Herndon P. Jeffreys*

### *In honor of:*

*Mr. & Mrs. Carmon Dugger*

*Miss Meredith Tallent*

*Miss Anna-Katherine Tallent*

*Mr. Charles Lipford*

Merry Christmas 

*Memories from our*

# *Fall Family Festival*

*October 24, 2008*



*What  
Fun !*



*photos courtesy of Zachary Wood and Mrs. Faith Counselman*

# NEED BASED SCHOLARSHIP AT PROVIDENCE

Welcome to our newest Multi-Year Scholarship Partners




Brit E. Bowers, DDS  
801 Sunset Drive  
Bld A, Suite 3  
Johnson City, TN



Big John's Closeouts  
283 E. Elk Avenue  
Elizabethton, TN 37643

## THANKS to our Multi-Year Scholarship Partners

Johnson City Internal Medicine Associates, PC  
219 Princeton Road, Suite 200  
Johnson City, TN 37601  
423-282-4911



2105 East Center St., Suite B  
Kingsport, TN 37664  
423.378.5044




Host Engineering, Inc  
593 AA Deakins Road  
Jonesborough, TN 37659




NN Inc. - Corporate Office  
2000 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 12  
Johnson City, TN 37604  
423-743-9151



Brit E. Bowers, DDS  
801 Sunset Drive  
Bld A, Suite 3  
Johnson City, TN  
423-610-0556



Acorn Electrical Specialists, Inc.  
403 Rock Lane  
Piney Flats, TN  
423-538-6007

Big John's Closeouts  
283 E. Elk Avenue  
Elizabethton, TN 37643  
423-542-3117

**EASTman**  
(Eastman Annual Scholarship Team)  
"Eastman employees committed to providing need-based scholarships"



**Alumni Parents**  
Committed to providing need-based scholarships

Place your company logo here.  
For more information, call  
Mark Koscak at 423-854-9819

**2008-09 Goal**


# ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

2008 - 2009

NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP

---

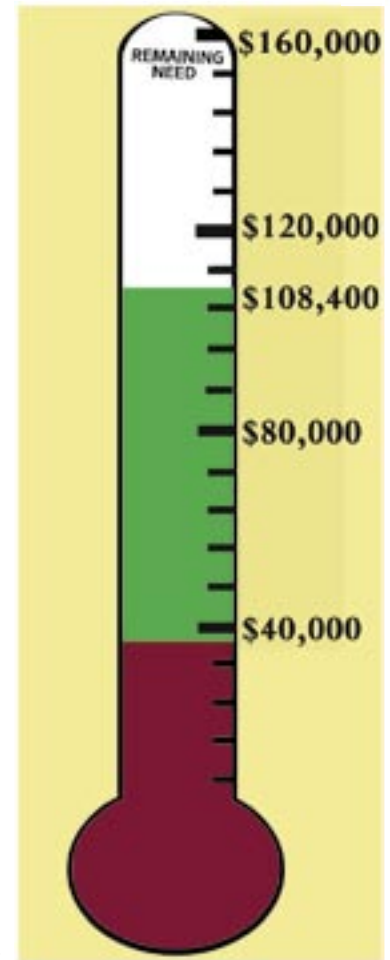
"Providing a Christ-Centered Education"



By: Bill Bledsoe

2008 - 2009 GOAL

\$160,000



CASH

PLEDGES

**"THESE ARE THE.....MEN.....WHO UNDERSTOOD THE TIMES AND KNEW WHAT ISRAEL SHOULD DO." 1 CHRONICLES 12:23,32**

Dear Friend,

Toward the end of his life, John Adams wrote to Thomas Jefferson and said, "My friend, you and I have lived in serious times." How do we prepare young men and women to lead lives to match the times?

Join us as we train 81 students through need-based scholarship to share hope as they learn wisdom and eloquence. Knowledge without wisdom is useless, and wisdom without eloquence cannot be shared with others. Join us as we invest in hope. *"The eyes of the Lord are on those...whose hope is in His unfailing love" (Psalm 33:18).*

We are.....on the WAY! (John 14:6)

Mark Koscak, Director of Development

Monthly Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) is available. Forms may be picked up at the Development Office.

**Annual Scholarship Fund PLEDGE CARD**

**mail to: Providence Academy  
Development Office  
2788 Carroll Creek Rd.  
Johnson City, TN 37615**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ I/We pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Payments to be made periodically as follows:

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  Monthly     Quarterly     Semi-annually     Annually

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Installments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for a period of \_\_\_\_\_, beginning \_\_\_\_\_.

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ I/We enclose our initial scholarship gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Gift matched by \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## ENCOURAGEMENT *continued*

these important goals of loving and challenging the students.

Last summer I searched the Scriptures to find a passage that might encompass this idea of balance. The passage I finally landed on was, "For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into His kingdom and glory" (I Thessalonians 2:11-12). This is a powerful passage, particularly for a father, because it reminds us of how we are to deal with our own children. We are to encourage, comfort and urge them – in that order – to live lives worthy of God. As a father, I often reverse the order and spend more time "urging" my kids than I do encouraging them. My urging can be so frequent that it runs the risk of being exasperating to my children. In the same way, we Christian

"The academic standards in most schools across our nation are so low that we are becoming a nation comfortable with mediocrity."

educators must be careful that we don't spend more time urging our students to excel than we do encouraging them.

Please do not misunderstand me. We

definitely need to set high standards for our children, and this includes academic standards. The academic standards in most schools across our nation are so low that we are becoming a nation comfortable with mediocrity. When the classical Christian school movement started taking shape around seventeen years ago, its motto was "Repairing the Ruins," so we must understand that what we are attempting to do at Providence Academy is needed but will also be

easily misunderstood because of the pervasiveness of mediocrity prevalent throughout our community.

(At this point I cannot help but put in a plug for a book; Do Hard Things: A Teenage Rebellion Against Low Expectations. The book is written by Alex and Brett Harris. They are brothers...and teenagers...who have taken it upon themselves to write this book for teenagers to remind them that God deserves so much more than mediocrity. It's a great read for any Christian parent and Christian teen and is available at Amazon.com.)

Yet, it is also clearly understood, from the I Thessalonians 2:11-12 passage, as well as from our own life experiences, that children...and people in general...need love and encouragement. Our primary goal this school year is to find creative ways to show love and encouragement to each of the students at Providence Academy. We are to constantly encourage them, realizing that it is crucial for each and every student to know that they are loved. We may lose a student because they move out of the area, find the curriculum too difficult, or for any numbers of other reasons; but God forbid that we should ever lose a student because we, as a Christian school, have failed to show love and encouragement to them.

As I stated earlier, we must keep the balance between showing love and encouragement and maintaining behavioral and academic standards. We are convinced that we can do both and are confident that if our students receive encouragement and comfort from us first, then the urging that we also give will be better received and will help produce students that truly are living lives worthy of God.

*"For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into His kingdom and glory."  
(I Thessalonians 2:11-12)*

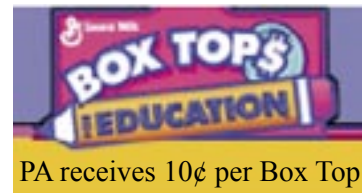
### Scholarship Testimony

*"During our family's recent crisis, we were advised to cut expenses by placing our children in public school. It has been such a comfort to have the benefit of the scholarship program. In our time of need, our children could remain in a Christian environment where they thrive. We are so thankful for God's provision through PA's scholarship fund. It truly has taken an immense weight off our shoulders during a very stressful time."*

## PA FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES



On your next visit, simply tell the cashier you want to link your ValuCard with our school name. From then on, each time you use your ValuCard, Providence will earn points to purchase valuable educational tools. In lieu of collecting receipts, all purchases are now tracked electronically through your value card. (must relink each new school year)



PA receives 10¢ per Box Top

When you are out shopping look for products with box tops on them. Cut them out and turn them in to your child's teacher. Look for ongoing details and contests in Tuesday Folders. This money will go to the Annual Scholarship Fund.

When you choose to buy a gift card through the Providence Academy gift card program, the vendor rebates from 2-20% to Providence Academy. The profit from gift card sales goes to a small Christmas bonus for faculty and staff.



## PROVIDENCE ACADEMIC STATISTICS

### COLLEGES ATTENDED BY PA GRADS 2003-2008

Baylor University	1	Uni. of Tennessee	10	University of Mississippi	1
Carson- Newman	5	Wake Forest Uni.	2	West Point	1
The Citadel	1	Moody Bible Institute	1	Erskine College	1
East Tennessee State	24	Clemson University	2	Gardner-Webb College	2
Grove City College	2	Middle Tennessee Uni.	2	Union University	5
Johnson & Wales Uni.	2	Uni. of North Carolina	1	Covenant College	3
King College	2	Lee University	1	Samford University	3
Memphis State Uni.	1	Dickinson College	1	Uni. of TN-Chat.	2
Northeast State Community College	8	Asbury College	1	Emory and Henry	2
Geneva College	1	University of Alabama	1	Furman University	4
Rhodes College	1	Tennessee Tech	3	Milligan College	2
		Elon University	1	LeTourneau University	2

### ACT SCORES

Year	Providence Academy	TN	National
2003	27.1 (12)	20.4	20.8
2004	26.1 (10)	20.5	20.9
2005	24.3 (21)	20.5	20.9
2006	26.0 (16)	20.7	21.1
2007	27.6 (25)	20.7	21.2
2008	25.6 (23)	20.7	21.2

( ) = number of students in class

### SAT SCORES

Year	SAT Critical Reading	SAT Math	SAT Composite	SAT Writing
	PA/TN/Nat.	PA/TN/Nat.	PA Score	PA/TN/Nat.
2003	616/568/507	589/560/519	1205	*
2004	607/567/508	554/557/518	1161	*
2005	563/572/508	582/563/520	1145	*
2006	588/573/503	538/569/518	1690	564/572/497
2007	621/574/502	594/569/515	1811	596/568/494

\*national testing not done in this area until March 2005



2788 Carroll Creek Rd  
Johnson City, TN 37615

**RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED**

Main Office  
Phone: 423-854-9819  
Fax: 423-854-8958

Development Office  
Phone: 423-854-9819

Email: [padev@providenceacademy.com](mailto:padev@providenceacademy.com)

We're on the web at  
[www.providenceacademy.com](http://www.providenceacademy.com)

NON-PROFIT  
ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MWI

CONTACT US AT (423) 854-9819 TO REQUEST REMOVAL FROM OUR MAILING LIST.

## AN ENCOURAGING WORD

### FROM A PROVIDENCE PARENT:

I sincerely appreciate the time, education and value that Providence has poured into my son. The school has been the deciding factor in our move being a success or a failure, and we would not change a thing. I know that God is blessing you as a school for your efforts as His fingerprints are all over everything you do. My personal testimony now includes how God opened the door for Cole at Providence and the

“Knowing that I send him to you each day where the Christian world view is not only taught, but also lived is great comfort to me as a parent.”

effect it has made on his life. I hope you fully understand the effect you have had on our lives and how grateful we are. Coming from a

public school system, we have experienced the worldly culture and have witnessed the destruction it can bring. Knowing that I send him to you each day where the Christian world view is not only taught, but also lived is great comfort to me as a parent.

I often like to share a lesson Cole learned his first year at Providence. He was in Coach Minton's science class and the homework assignment for that evening was to read a chapter that dealt with creation vs. evolution. The next day as they went into class “Is Your Integrity Worth 50 Points?” was written on the board. According to Cole, Coach Minton asked one of the students to stand and read the definition of integrity,

which was somewhat confusing to the class because they were in Science class, not English. But once the definition was read he told them there would be a quiz over the homework from the night before and asked each of them to consider the phrase in front of them. The quiz was simple, each student had to assign themselves a grade based on what they thought they would get if an actual quiz was given over the homework

“Is Your Integrity Worth 50 Points?”

assignment, i.e had they read it, did they understand it, etc. They could choose any number between 0 and 50 and there would be no questions asked. From what I understand the students for the most part scored themselves fairly, with several taking a zero. Cole learned a great deal more from the quiz than he ever learned from the homework assignment. I was completely blown away by this. This one quiz was evidence to the character that is instilled into the students at Providence.

I could ramble for days about how our lives have been blessed by Cole being at Providence, but I think you now understand how much I value you and your work in promoting God's kingdom.

Thank you again,  
Jennifer Ratliff