

CPA

101





Christ Presbyterian Academy

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MISSION

Christ Presbyterian Academy, an educational ministry of Christ Presbyterian Church, assists Christian families in helping students come to know God, evaluate all knowledge and all life by His truth, and live transformed by His truth for His glory.

MOTTO

Soli Deo Gloria

To God Alone Be the Glory

Beliefs



We embrace biblical and historical Christianity as expressed in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as summarized by the Nicene and Apostles Creeds, and the Westminster Confession of Faith. Additionally, we affirm the five tenets of the Reformation, which are: scripture alone, by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, and to God alone be the glory.

God is one (Mark 12:29), yet mysteriously exists in three Persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), who are to be equally loved, honored, and adored (Matthew 28:19).

Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human. He is the sole Mediator able to restore the broken relationship, and the resulting alienation, between God and people (John 14:6; Acts 4:12).

The Holy Spirit is God, the third Person of the Trinity. He is alive and active. He indwells followers of Christ, working in unison with the Word of God to guide them in all truth. He is the power that enables Christians to live as new creations in Christ and empowers believers for service (John 16:7-14; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 6:17).

The Bible is the inspired Word of God. It is without error in its original manuscripts and contains everything we need to know about having a right relationship with God and our fellow human beings. The Bible is the basis for all of our essential beliefs (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

People are created by God and in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). On this basis, all people must be treated with dignity, honor, love, and respect (James 3:9-10). At the same time, in their quest for independence and the centrality of self, all people begin their lives alienated from God, and in this condition are without hope and under judgment, a condition that can only be cured through God's loving, gracious, and saving intervention (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1). As the image of God, we are most alive when our trust, affections, and allegiances center on Him.

Restoration between God and people (also called "salvation") happens when the Holy Spirit gives people a new heart, leading and enabling them to trust in Jesus alone for salvation (John 1:12-13). Because God loves His creation, He will also restore the entire universe to a condition of beauty, rest, joy, perfection, and freedom (Romans 8:18-30). God's world, which began as a promising Garden (Genesis 1:27-31), will find its fulfillment in a perfected, life-giving City in which there will be no more death, mourning, crying, or pain (Revelation 21:1-8).

Good Works do not and cannot make us acceptable to God (Ephesians 2:8-9), but are the natural outcome of authentic faith in Jesus (James 2:17). We become more fully human—the very best and most healthy version of ourselves—to the degree that we follow God's loving commands. His commands, properly understood, are neither limiting nor oppressive but life-giving. Obedience to God's commands is an essential prerequisite for true human flourishing.

The Church is the family of God and consists of those who place their functional trust (faith) in Jesus. God wants all members of His worldwide Church, together with their children, to be active in a local church which meets regularly to worship God, serve each other, and be a life-giving presence in their local community and world. (Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:24-25).

Mission



Our Mission: Christ Presbyterian Academy, an educational ministry of Christ Presbyterian Church, assists Christian families in helping students come to know God, evaluate all knowledge and all life by His truth, and live transformed by His truth for His glory.

As an educational ministry of Christ Presbyterian Church (CPC), the Academy is ...

- Governed by a board of trustees operating under and deriving authority from the Session of Christ Presbyterian Church.
- Committed to providing a high quality and diverse learning experience with a Christian worldview for covenantal* students in the greater Nashville area, as well as an education designed to serve the ever-growing educational needs in our city, region, and world.
- Focused on our core purpose as a life-giving educational ministry in order to fulfill Christ's command to engage all people and nations with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in support of the CPC mission: To follow Christ in His mission of loving people, places, and things to life.

**Covenant students are children with at least one parent/guardian who professes faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and risen Savior.*

We assist Christian families as we ...

- Partner with parents to work together in balanced relationship of church, home, and school for investment in the student's maturation.
- Cultivate a hospitable and engaging atmosphere to create strong community.
- Consistently communicate with families about the progress of each student.
- Prepare students to be faithful adults characterized by a desire to shape and redeem the broader culture in which they live, work, play, and worship through the message of the Gospel.
- Utilize our Parent Connect organization to offer opportunities for families to be positively involved in the CPA community and their child's educational experience.

We help students come to know God when we ...

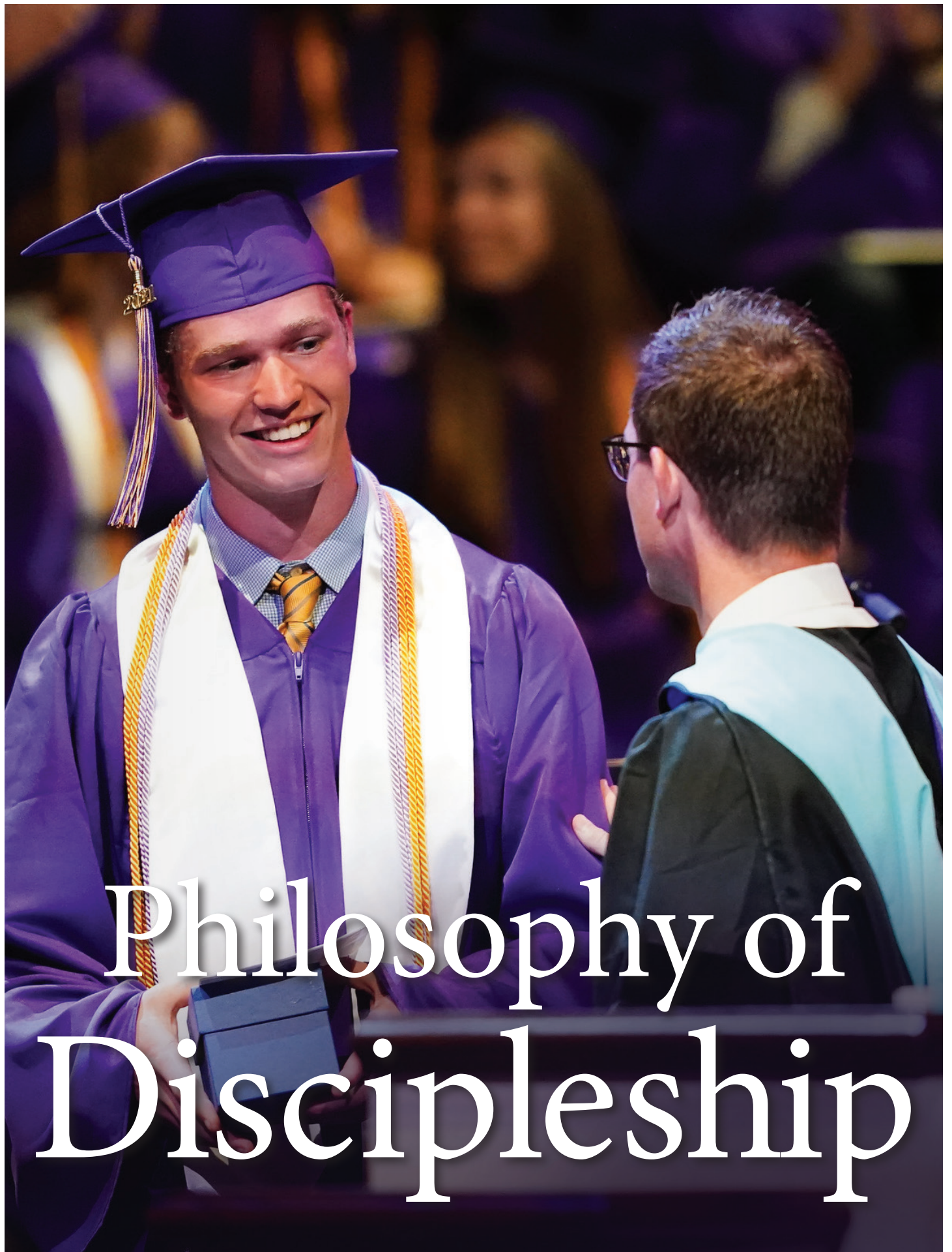
- Seek intimacy with Jesus Christ, both individually and in community.
- Engage each student with a pursuant love, without conditions.
- Identify and encourage students' gifts and passions in the context of God's larger story of redemption, servant leadership, and cultural renewal.
- Teach and handle accurately the Word of God.
- Integrate the message of the Gospel into every facet of our programs through content, modeling, and mentoring.

We teach students to evaluate all knowledge and all life by His truth when our education ...

- Reveals God's truth in all things, secular and sacred.
- Connects the relevancy of content to the Gospel narrative.
- Teaches global literacy in all areas to affirm God's truth and dispel fallacy.
- Offers multiple levels of Christian discipleship through diverse offerings to facilitate deeper learning and understanding of spiritual matters.

Students live transformed by His truth for His glory when they ...

- Surrender their old life for new life in Christ through the redemptive work of Christ's death on the cross, the power of His Resurrection, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
- Experience the promise of the Gospel and receive God's unconditional love and peace.
- Study the Word of God and experience the flourishing that happens as a result of following Him.
- Think critically through the lens of faith and act in obedience to God, trusting Him for the outcome.
- Seek to use every situation and experience to glorify God.



Philosophy of Discipleship

Spiritual life at CPA is a covenantal symbiosis between family, church, and Academy for the discipleship of our students. The New Testament word for disciple, μαθητής (mathetes), means “learner.” Learning at CPA involves intimacy with Jesus (Mark 13:14), encouraging imitation of Jesus (Luke 6:40). Being a learner of Jesus is not mere data gathering. Instead, it is covenantal, relational learning that leads to loving Him, living for Him. Learning must see all of life and all disciplines of study under the lordship of Christ. Whether in chapel, math class, English, the sciences, arts, athletics, or Bible classes, our students will see everything through the lens of a Christian worldview:

Anthropology

- What does it mean to be human? Too often, social media catechizes our kids into confusion as to what it means to be a person. One popular atheist recently suggested that humans are nothing more than bio-chemical puppets. We want all we do at CPA to constantly remind our students that they are gloriously created in the image of God, endowed with incredible potential, and are precious in His sight.

Theology

- Who is God? What is He like? Can I know Him? Does He care for me? We want our students to intimately know the three persons of the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. J.I. Packer once observed, “The Trinity is the basis of the gospel, and the gospel is a declaration of the Trinity in action.” All we teach is through the lens of God’s revelation of Himself.

Epistemology

- How do we know? What is our basis for learning? What is our authority for knowing what is true? All we teach

at CPA is built upon a commitment to thinking God’s thoughts after Him. The Bible of the Triune God and the Triune God of the Bible is our foundation or starting point for knowing in every discipline.

Metaphysics

- What is the nature of reality? Is the material universe all there is? Or, is there a spiritual reality to life? The Lord made the heavens and the earth, and He created us body and soul. This Christian metaphysic (view of being and reality) is that which makes all we teach more than useful for going out and getting a job or getting into a particular college, but essential for understanding the universe and our place in it.

Ethics

- Is there right and wrong? Who gets to make the rules? All that has been said flows into equipping our students to process the pressing moral issues of our day. These crucial ethical questions will be addressed at CPA in light of our commitment to the message of Jesus (proclamation of grace), the method of Jesus (a pedagogy of grace), and the manner of Jesus (becoming people of grace).

Christian educator Abraham Kuyper (1837-1920) once insisted, “There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine!” We want our students to hear Jesus say, “Mine!” over math, science, arts, athletics, history, business. Moreover, we want our students to hear Jesus joyfully say, “Mine!” over each and every one of them throughout their years of study at CPA.

A man with glasses and a grey suit is shown in profile, conducting with a baton. He is standing in front of a microphone. The background is dark and out of focus. The text "Teaching + Learning" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font at the bottom of the image.

Teaching + Learning

Teaching is the art and science of empowering students with not only knowledge but also a life-long love of learning. Our teachers seek to cultivate growth mindsets and offer experiences that inspire students to acquire the wisdom, skill, attitude, and faith needed to effectively pursue and embrace opportunities that bring glory to God.

Teaching empowers students to learn at high levels when instructors:

- View the learning process as inherently valuable and ultimately transferable in multiple contexts.
- Offer varied circumstances and complexities to refine decision-making in an environment where success and failure are viewed as equal opportunities to learn.
- Establish a teacher-student relationship that is marked by high expectations, mutual respect, and trust.
- Utilize technology for learning and the production of work, not simply for consumption and entertainment.
- Challenge the student to use knowledge and skill acquisition to benefit others.
- Value diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and frameworks of thought as great assets to learning.
- Persistently collaborate with colleagues on best practices and student learning, seeking excellence as the standard.
- Strategically utilize a consistent and viable curriculum to help students meet learning goals.
- Constantly and frequently adjust their teaching in response to how students are progressing toward learning goals.
- Require students to grapple with opposing viewpoints, novel ideas, and deeper thinking.
- Center experiences on problems and situations that develop critical analysis and move students towards action and resolution.
- Give students clarity and enlightenment to the biblical truths found in the subject matter to encourage the pursuit of wisdom over knowledge.

Learning is a skill honed by experience, encouraged by an atmosphere unthreatened by failure, and infused with healthy risk-taking. Learning happens most fluidly when students meet novel challenges with curiosity and self-direction, trusting that errors are an integral part of the learning process. Whether through purposefully orchestrated experiences or by the natural occurrences of the day, learning happens constantly and is a skill for life. The ability to learn is a gift of the Creator and should be treated with respect and stewarded.

Learning occurs when students:

- Believe all mistakes are vehicles for learning.
- Are appropriately challenged by high standards of learning that are meaningful and applicable.
- Have opportunity to apply their learning to novel situations that simulate problems they may be asked to solve in their everyday lives.
- Interact in widening circles of experience that extend beyond self, peers, socioeconomic group, ethnic group, and religious familiarity.
- Recognize the relevance of what they are learning and its potential to help them contribute to their communities and the world.
- Choose opportunities to naturally and fluidly incorporate character traits of curiosity, gratitude, self-control, empathy, social intelligence, passion, perseverance, and resilience into their daily lives.
- Have authentic relationships with each other and with their teachers.
- Read regularly and for pleasure, pursuing personal interests and exploring new ideas.
- Seek God's truth and recognize the instruction of the Holy Spirit as an integral factor in all knowledge acquisition and wisdom.

Process of Tr

HOW A CPA EDUCATION GROWS DISCIPLES

Christ Presbyterian Academy is an educational ministry of Christ Presbyterian Church created to assist christian families. The Academy supports Christian families and partners with them to provide essential atmospheric conditions for student growth and maturation. **The more life giving the atmosphere, the more growth potential.**

CONDITIONS

- **AIR** — A family, invested in a thriving local church community. A family committed to following Christ and raising children in His word and according to His ways
- **SOIL** — God's Word, the Bible, His Truth — inerrant and infallible

Students come to know God

We teach the five roots of worldview.

ROOTS

- **PEOPLE** (Anthropology) The study of what it means to be human — past, present, and future. *"Without knowledge of self there is no knowledge of God."* John Calvin. *What does it mean to be human?*
- **GOD** (Theology) The study of God and the implications of His existence. *"Without knowledge of God there is no knowledge of self."* John Calvin. *Who is God?*
- **KNOWLEDGE** (Epistemology) The study of knowledge. *How do we know what we know? What is our basis for knowing?*
- **REALITY** (Metaphysics) The study of reality. *Is reality exclusively material or also spiritual?*
- **ETHICS** — The study of right and wrong. *Who decides what is right and wrong?*

Evaluating all knowledge and all life by His Truth

Delivering the highest quality of Christian education

GROWTH

- **INTIMACY** — The collective intimacy of the CPA faculty and staff with Jesus Christ is the lifeblood of our educational ministry
- **CURRICULUM** — A guaranteed, viable, and meaningful standard of learning and assessment for every student at every grade, every year
- **EXPERTISE** — The faculty and staff committed to growth and excellence in the best practices of educational instruction
- **PROGRAMMING** — Diverse offerings to help students discover who God made them to be and how to unleash their giftings upon the world
- **DISCIPLESHIP** — Walking with students towards Jesus through authentic relationship



Transformation



Living transformed by His Truth for His Glory —

To become a lifelong follower of Jesus

FRUIT

WALKS WITH CHRIST

- Inspires others to be their true self by pursuing the most excellent way [Philippians 4:8] and continues to grow in the fruit of the Spirit and attributes of love [Galatians 5:22-24; Colossians 3:1-16]
- Embodies the complementary convictions of grace and truth, love and law, freedom and faithfulness through Christ [Ephesians 4:15-16; John 1:1-14]
- Demonstrates integrity and courage through conviction and vulnerability, even when costly [Psalm 15:4]
- Enjoys and prioritizes Christian fellowship and worship in the local church [Hebrews 10:24-25]

LIVES IN COMMUNITY

- Lives with sincerity, curiosity, and Christ-like inclusiveness towards others [Luke 14:15-24, Matthew 25:31-40]
- Grows meaningful relationships that include multiple perspectives, cultures, races, abilities, and varied socioeconomic backgrounds to enrich the biblical community [Galatians 3:28; Revelation 5]
- Affirms the dignity in all people, and gives the honor due to them as those who bear the image of God...the *Imago Dei* [Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 8]
- Seeks opportunities to encourage others to be their best and truest self [Proverbs 25:11; 1 Corinthians 13]

CONTRIBUTES TO THE WORLD

- Actively committed to the world's weak, poor, and oppressed — offering time, energy, and/material resources to improve conditions and systems where there is need [Isaiah 58:10; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7]
- Possesses a strong sense of calling embodied through a life-giving work ethic, undaunted by failure, and motivated by the redemptive connection of high quality work that is creative, restorative, helpful, or some combination thereof [Genesis 2:15; Revelation 21:1-2]
- Is able to relate well to nonbelievers and is equipped to lovingly and intelligently represent the Christian faith [1 Timothy 1:12-16; 1 Corinthians 15:17-20]
- Discerns and delights in the truth, beauty, and goodness of all creation [John 17:17, Psalm 27:4; 1 John 4:1]

A photograph of four professionals—two women and two men—standing on a paved walkway in front of a modern school building. The woman on the far left is wearing a white short-sleeved dress and sandals. The man next to her is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a purple striped tie. The woman next to him is wearing a white short-sleeved top and a white and gold striped skirt. The man on the far right is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a striped tie. The building in the background has a gabled roof and a circular emblem. The text "Professional Learning Communities" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font at the bottom of the image.

Professional Learning Communities

CPA is an official **Professional Learning Community**

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) undergo an ongoing process in which educators work collaboratively in recurring cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students they serve. PLCs operate under the assumption that the key to improved learning for students is continuous job-embedded learning for educators.

In a Professional Learning Community, collaboration represents a systematic process in which teachers work together interdependently in order to impact their classroom practice in ways that will lead to better results for their students, for their team, and for their school. CPA provides job-embedded collaboration time for all faculty, recognizing the need for educators to constantly evaluate and improve upon the following questions in the learning process.

Four Key Questions of a PLC

- What do we expect students to learn? (*Curriculum Planning*)
- How will we know when they have learned it? (*Assessment*)
- How will we respond when students don't learn it? (*Intervention*)
- How will we support students who already know it? (*Extension*)

These four areas are the focus of a weekly PLC meeting with faculty and staff led by a PLC academic team.

All teachers use the Atlas curriculum-mapping program, which can be accessed through a link on the CPA website. These maps offer families a window into what their children are learning as they progress through the academic program at CPA. From the website, parents are able to view two of the domains that teachers use to plan their daily lessons: Essential Standards; Supporting Standards and Learning Targets.



Ceremonies



Preschool Celebration

Preschool Celebration commemorates the importance of each student's growth in the child's first formal educational setting. Including a slide show of photographs of each child, graduating Pre-K students are affirmed by faculty and families as they walk across the stage as the precursor to the

tradition they will one day share as seniors. This event in the lives of students, as all their preschool days, is illuminated by the scripture: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the Power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."* (Romans 15:13).

Lower School Commendation

Lower School Commendation marks fifth grade students' accomplishment in completing lower school. Students gather in a pre-event to reflect on their years' growth and the gift of their parents' love and leading during that time. Then, in a community setting with parents, the ceremony focusing on God's unique design of each student unfolds. Students are encouraged in their strengths, the significance of their

given name, and scripture is spoken over them. Following the ceremony, each fifth grader presents a letter to his or her parents as a keepsake, sharing thoughts and feelings at this life milestone. For the faculty, this event is a living out of the lower school banner scripture: *"Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name."* (Psalm 86:11).

Middle School Crossover

Middle School Crossover honors the unique educational journey of middle school students. Building on intentional times of reflection and transition considering, *"What do you want to leave behind?"* and *"What do you want to take with you?"* the faculty affirms students with a blessing that notes their distinct attributes along with covering them in scripture selected particularly for them. The evening

is a special time that encapsulates what the faculty hopes students will take with them into upper school — the significance of community in one's life for both learning and living. It memorably reveals the middle school building scripture: *"So in Christ, we though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all others."* (Romans 12:5).

Upper School Commencement

Upper School Commencement venerates the capstone achievement of the upper school student's education. Baccalaureate's worship service sets the focus on God's presence and provision for these young lives. From the opening worship music led by senior members of CPA vocal group Vision, through the hallmark speeches from a junior and senior selected by the senior class, to the faculty address and closing prayer and hymn, God is sought and revered in this culminating time. This continues at Commencement proper with a reflection on the senior class passage by the Salutatorian and a charge to peers as they go beyond the halls of CPA by the Valedictorian. It is a time of collective and individual achievement as the three senior awards are

given to recipients of the Servant Leadership, Distinguished Senior, and *Soli Deo Gloria* awards. Then, as each senior crosses the stage to receive the diploma, a scripture chosen specifically for the student is read as a blessing of truth; a covering as they move forward in their lives. When the final "tossing of the caps" occurs, faculty, families, friends, and the students themselves, exult in what has gone before and the new vistas that lie ahead as they progress into the world. Through their lives, we believe the upper school scripture will be fulfilled: *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father who is in heaven."* (Matthew 5:16).

A bronze statue of a lion, likely a guardian lion, stands on a stone pedestal. The lion is depicted in a powerful, standing pose, facing forward with its mouth slightly open, showing its teeth. The statue has a detailed mane and is set against a background of a building with a lattice-patterned facade. The word "Symbols" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font at the bottom of the image.

Symbols

Crest

- **The cross** symbolizes the value and love God places on us as His creation, in that He chose to sacrifice His Son in order to have eternal relationship with us.
- **The motto**, *Soli Deo Gloria*, is Latin for To God Alone Be the Glory. This motto serves as the Academy's banner of purpose as we educate students and, through education, realize glorifying God is the key to human flourishing.
- **The Lion** is the school mascot. The Lion represents Christ, the Lion of Judah, who is the centerpiece of all life and love. The three Lions represent our covenantal philosophy of a unified vision of home, church, and school, as the Lions are moving in unity.
- **The shield** reminds us we live in a world at war: light vs. dark and life vs. death. God has chosen His followers to actively participate in His plan for restoration and redemption. While a shield's purpose is for defense, it supports the Lion (our hope), the cross (our power) and the motto (our guide) as three key weapons for increasing the light and life of the Gospel.
- **The outer ring** represents the unending and all-encompassing power of community in Christ that permeates every element of our Academy. The ring has no end and no beginning, symbolizing the one eternal God.

Colors

Our colors are the most significant identifiers of CPA. Purple and gold were established as the official school colors at the Academy's founding in 1985.

- **Purple is the color of royalty.**

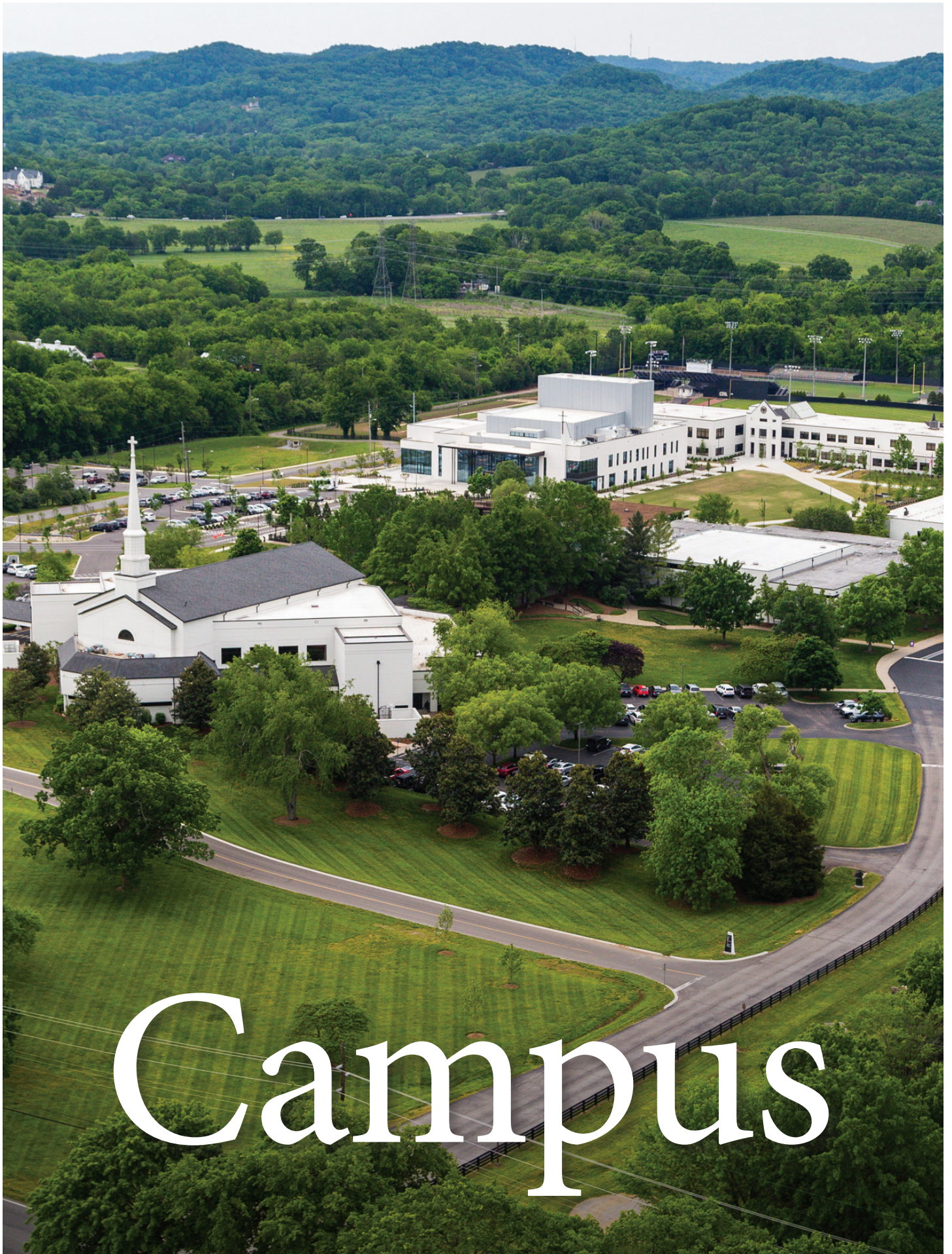
It was one of the most precious of the ancient dyes and the color of royal robes, including the one placed on Jesus before His crucifixion. Our purple represents Christ's royalty. Christ, who became a servant in full humility, lived

a life of sacrifice and submission to His Father's will.

- **Gold is a metal of great value.**

In scriptures, it was used extensively to represent the presence of God. Gold reminds us of our great value as the pinnacle of God's creation. Through the flame of refinement, God is making us a purer and truer version of ourselves.





Campus

SOLI DEO CENTER

—God Alone—

"Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name
give glory, for the sake of your steadfast
love and your faithfulness!" Psalm 115:1



Soli Deo Center (To God Alone) *Administration and Arts Performance*

The centerpiece of campus — God alone anchors us and everything else radiates from that center, "true education has God alone at its center." (CPA Constitution)

SPERO HALL

—Hope—

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and
peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy
Spirit you may abound in hope." Romans 15:13



Spero Hall (Hope) *Preschool/Nursery*

Our youngest students represent the Hope of the Gospel being handed down from generation to generation [Deuteronomy 4:] "God reveals Himself in His world and His word. He is sovereign Lord of history, the author and revealer of Truth, the creator, sustainer, and consummator of life. Without Him life is meaningless and education is misdirected." (CPA Constitution)

VERITAS HALL

—Truth—

"Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may
walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear
your name." Psalm 86:11



Veritas Hall (Truth) *Lower School*

The foundation of a child's worldview is developed in the primary years of life. The Truth of the Gospel is the only reliable foundation. "Education is the total process of coming to know the Truth of God." (CPA Constitution)

CIVITAS HALL

—Community—

"So we, though many, are one body in Christ,
and individually members one of another."
Romans 12:5



Civitas Hall (Community) *Middle School*

Living in community is the essential facilitator for fully understanding the unique design of each child. "We recognize unique identity is only fully realized as a person in community...within Christian community there is a blending of selves without the loss of individuality." (CPA Constitution)

LUMEN HALL

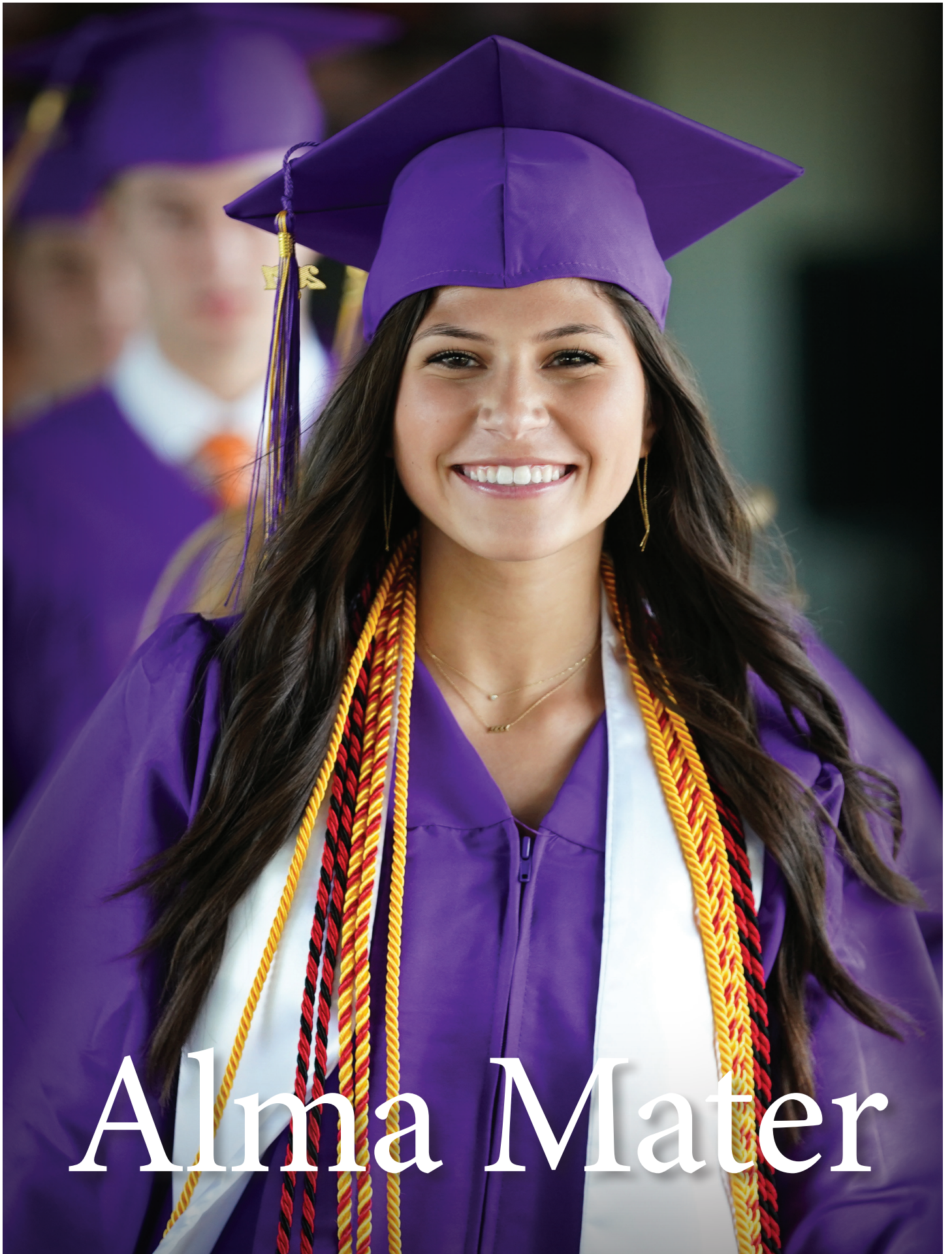
—Light—

"In the same way, let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works and give
glory to your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16



Lumen Hall (Light) *Upper School*

Jesus is the light of the world, and the mission of a CPA graduate is to be a foretaste of the coming Kingdom where they live, work, play, and worship. "Education, therefore, is concerned with the whole person. It seeks to bring the whole person to God through Christ and to aid subsequent growth in that new relationship...to give the whole person training for productive life in contemporary society." (CPA Constitution)



Alma Mater

Soli Deo Gloria

Words and Music by Steven Curtis Chapman

Soli Deo Gloria

This will be our song
All the praise and glory to our God
and our God alone belong

Soli Deo Gloria

Let this be our prayer
Spread through us the fragrance
Of the knowledge of His truth everywhere
Through our victories, through all our pain
We've been forged in a holy flame
And we will stand as His grand display
To God alone be the glory

Soli Deo Gloria



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