

# STRONG ROCK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



The mission of Strong Rock Christian School is to glorify God and partner with families in educating and inspiring their children to impact the world for Jesus Christ - The Strong Rock

### WELCOME OUR NEWEST ALUMNI

**CLASS OF 2025** 



#### Greetings Alumni!

The time has finally come... the class of 2025 has graduated! Saying those words aloud feels impossible. I first came to Strong Rock in the fifth grade, and since then, graduating has felt years away. However, those years quickly passed, and we are now known as SRCS alumni. Soon, the classmates we have spent most of our lives with will scatter throughout the nation, facing the world, and following the plans God has for each of us.

Strong Rock, for many of us, has been our second family; the second family that prays for our future and has taught us how to face the world through a Biblical lens. I am filled with gratitude that I am a graduate of Strong Rock, the school that has watched each of us grow into the young adults we are today. Despite the feeling of excitement to finally graduate, it is bittersweet to know that we've sat in our high school classes for the last time. I recognize that the teachers and staff of Strong Rock have immense love and care for each of us. They will continue to be our mentors even as we move on from SRCS and into our career paths. While I have been class president, I have witnessed many of the amazing ideas and hard work by my fellow classmates. My classmates have a gift of turning anything into something fun while still striving for success.

During senior retreat, the senior class claimed the word of the year to be "unity". As a class, we decided to present a senior gift of an awning cover for the playground area. This gift supports the word "unity", in which friends and family can gather. Our class hopes to leave a legacy of wh<mark>at it looks like to unite not only</mark> as a class, but as a school-wide community. To put this gift into action, the senior class held a car wash fundraiser for the Strong Rock staff. All the generous donations helped to make this gift possible as well as providing the seniors with yet another fun memory. Strong Rock has not fallen short of living up to their motto, "Blessed to be a blessing." This beloved school has been a blessing to each student that has walked down the halls. The various classes and conversations throughout high school have prepared the senior class to go out into the world and shine the light of Jesus. As we step into the next chapter of our lives, we will look back on the strong foundation that Strong Rock has set for us. On behalf of the class of 2025, I thank you for the honor of our class joining the alumni community as we will continue living out the mindset of "Blessed to be a blessing".

-CLASS OF 2024 STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

LAYNA NEELY

#### Our Newest Alumni Addition to the

### "Wall of Patriots"

# **Reid Musgrove**

CLASS OF 2024

In December 2024, Reid finished Basic Training and AIT (Advanced Individual Training).

He is planning on starting at the University of North Georgia in the fall, enrolling in their Cadets program and ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps).





THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY. WE ARE SINCERELY GRATEFUL FOR YOU.

#### Sara McCracken

**CLASS OF 2021** 

Sara McCracken was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Space Force

Sara graduated summa cum laude from Liberty University with a Bachelor of Science – Aeronautics in Unmanned Aircraft Operations and received the following awards:

- United States Space Force Commander's Award
- ·Top Aerospace Professional Award
  - The award is given to a student, selected by the faculty and staff, for excellence in all aspects of student life. A positive attitude, unmatched work ethic, involvement in extracurricular activities, and desire to better one's self through honest self-evaluation are the hallmarks of a student eligible for this award. The nominations are considered by the faculty, staff, and leadership and the award is given based on a consensus of that group.
- Top Academic Student Award for the Liberty University School of Aeronautics
  - Nominations are based on the overall cumulative Liberty University GPA. In the likely event multiple students share the highest overall cumulative GPA, the LUSOA Dean will determine the award winner based on additional factors provided by the LUSOA faculty and staff including (but not limited to) personal integrity, character, leadership, and teamwork. Historically, this is an extremely competitive award.

After getting married this summer, Sara will report to Peterson Space Force Base, formerly Peterson Air Force Base, located in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

SARA HAS WORKED HARD AND IS GOING TO DO GREAT THINGS TO SERVE OUR NATION.

WE ARE SINCERELY GRATEFUL FOR HER SERVICE!











### Alumni Christmas Event @ Queen Bee





Alumni gathered at Queen Bee Coffee Company for our second annual Christmas Event.

### **ALUMNI ON CAMPUS**

### McKenzie Parks



Lincoln Parks and his daughter McKenzie spoke to Student Leadership on January 9. McKenzie Parks (2024) is a freshman at Coppin State University, a Division 1 University, and McKenzie was a starter on their Women's Volleyball Team. Lincoln is the owner and founder of Web Mobile Fusion and a member of the Strong Rock Christian School Board of Trustees.

McKenzie shared that her faith in God and her relationship with her family made a positive difference in transitioning from Locust Grove to Baltimore. She shared that even in lonely times, she knew God had called her to Coppin State for a reason, and she had confidence in Him that He would provide for her. This was the first time Strong Rock has had a father/daughter team speak to Student Leadership Institute.

### Bryson Koby



**Bryson Koby** (2024) returned to Strong Rock on January 16 for Student Leadership Institute.

He participated in a Q&A with Mr. Mann about his college experience at Auburn University.

Bryson encouraged our students to continue to work hard, and they will be prepared for college!

#### **ALUMNI ON CAMPUS**

#### Chelsea (Mann) Adams

CLASS OF 2011



Chelsea (Mann) Adams (2011) returned to Strong Rock on January 14 for chapel.

She did an incredible job sharing about the many voices in our lives vying for our attention. She encouraged our staff and students to keep pursuing Christ and to always recognize His voice above all others.

#### Hannah-Grace (Mann) Hedgecoth

**CLASS OF 2017** 

Hannah-Grace (Mann) Hedgecoth (2017)

returned to Strong Rock on February 13 to speak to the Biblical Womanhood class.

She spoke with them about dating, marriage, and purity from a Biblical worldview versus what the world says about these topics. She did a fantastic job and said so many things they needed to hear!



Meg Jones CLASS OF 2024
Wes Jones CLASS OF 2019
Danielle (Goodine) Green CLASS OF 2019



Bowen Jones, one of Strong Rock's Board members and a dedicated Strong Rock dad to Wes Jones (2019), Jake Jones (2021), Emma Jones (2024), and Meg Jones (2024) gave an encouraging message at Donuts with Dad on March 21.

It was a fantastic time of fellowship, encouragement, and fun! Fathers were challenged to live out their faith boldly and to lead their families in prayer. Seeing dads praying with their children was a powerful reminder of the impact of a godly father.



Mary-Susan (Milam) Moore





The following was shared by Academy Principal Perian Calhoun -

"I Thessalonians 5: Il says, 'Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are doing.' For the last small group lesson, we discussed what your legacy is and how you want to be remembered. As I have gotten to know Mrs. Mary Susan Moore during my brief tenure here at Strong Rock, I know that she is going to leave a lasting impact on her students and instill great Biblical qualities. Mrs. Moore does an awesome job of encouraging our students and champions them in all that they do. Each day, you would never know if she is having a bad day or down because each time you are around her, she is always positive and encouraging. When you go into her classroom you sense this feeling of confidence and motivation, and the students are constantly learning. You can feel the presence of the spirit in the room.

Mrs. Moore also does an awesome job of communicating with parents and building great relationships. And no matter what, she is always trying to make sure that every one of her students reaches their full potential in whatever endeavor that they choose. She uniquely and genuinely does what is best for kids. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she goes out of her way to help other teachers, help lead her grade level and peers, and offer prayers to those in need. Mrs. Moore has done an outstanding job of being a great ambassador for our community and the Strong Rock Christian School mission/vision.

I'm proud to announce that Mrs. Mary Susan Moore is our Academy Teacher of the Year!"

#### **OUR FIRST ALUMNI TEACHER OF THE YEAR!**

#### <u>Chick-fil-A Remarkable Futures Scholarships!</u>

Cole Dervan CLASS OF 2024

Mackenzie Mayfield CLASS OF 2023

Landon Neely CLASS OF 2024



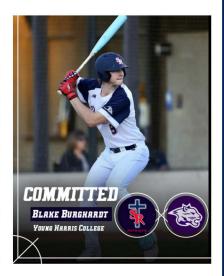
We celebrate Cole Dervan, Mackenzie Mayfield, and Landon Neely, who earned the Chick-fil-A Remarkable Futures Scholarship!

# **Congratulations! Signed & Ready!**

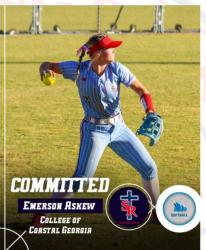
**CLASS OF 2025** 























### Sabre Mswia

**CLASS OF 2017** 

On January 9 Strong Rock Christian School alumni and former class of 2017 president Kanyika Trem Mswia (AKA Sabre) graduated from Florida's Volusia County Sheriff's Academy earning awards for Class Leadership, Physical Fitness, Top Gun Marksmanship, and Top Cop which came with a new 2025 Ford Explorer duty patrol cruiser.

Congratulations, Deputy Sheriff Kanyika Trem (Sabre) Mswia!



Pictured with his mother Enid Mswia and father Morris Bailey & friends from work and college.

### Will Miller

**CLASS OF 2020** 







Will Miller was named Georgia Tech's Student Government Association's Most Outstanding Graduating Senior for the Class of 2025.

The award is given to a graduating member of Georgia Tech's SGA to recognize their outstanding accomplishments and dedication to the organization and student body. It's awarded by the current SGA's members who nominate graduates and then vote.

Will served this past year as the Vice President of Finance, overseeing the allocation of roughly \$4.6 million of funding from over 400 student organizations and campus departments.

Congratulations, Will!

### **Jamie Gibson**

**CLASS OF 2024** 

Strong Rock Christian School proudly hosted the Southern Men's Lacrosse League Championship, "Shootout for Soldiers," on April 12. The highly anticipated event welcomed collegiate teams from across the Southeast, including Georgia College & State University, Mississippi State University, Morehouse College, Emory University, Samford University, Western Carolina University, Western Kentucky University, University of Tennessee Chattanooga, and University of South Alabama.

Among the players was 2024 Strong Rock graduate Jamie Gibson, who contributed to Georgia College's impressive performance, helping lead his team to victory in the championship.

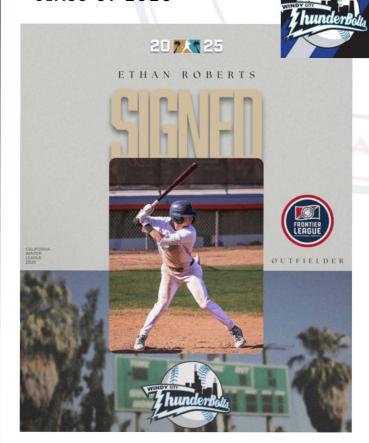
The event showcased the growing talent in collegiate lacrosse and celebrated teamwork, sportsmanship, and continued tradition of excellence on and off the field.





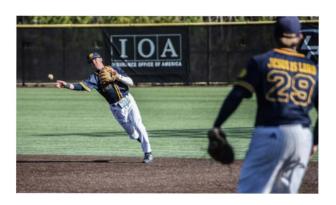
### **Ethan Roberts**

**CLASS OF 2020** 



As of February 12 Ethan is officially a professional baseball player having signed a Uniform Player Agreement with the Windy City Thunderbolts in the Frontier League.

After graduation, he played for Truett McConnell University. Ethan recently completed a short winter season in the California Winter League where he "tore it up" with a .368BA, .515OBP, and led the league in runs scored.



### **Hunter Rosich**

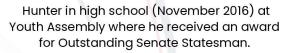
**CLASS OF 2017** 

Hunter Rosich is a lawyer! He is a staff attorney for the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit.

While attending Strong Rock, Hunter presented his College Search Project in Mrs. Mann's class, which included his plans of becoming a lawyer. Now, eight years later, Hunter has fulfilled that goal. He completed four years at the University of Georgia and three years at the University of Arkansas.









# Kylee Kerce

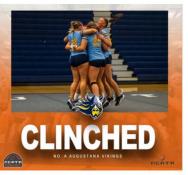
**CLASS OF 2022** 

- 1.) Inaugural season 2023
- 2.) #13 by NCATA preseason poll -2024
- 3.) Rose to #10 2024
- 4.) #11 by NCATA preseason poll 2025
- 5.) Rose to #4 2025
- 6.) 1st NCATA National Championship appearance as fourth seed - 2025
- 7.) Defeated fellow Division II University, Fairmont State in quarterfinals which means they were the highest ranked Division II Acrobatics & Tumbling team - 2025.
- 8.) 2025 season ended with a record of seven - one. Only defeated by the nine-time NCATA champions, Division I Baylor Bears.













# Demetrius Knight Jr.

**CLASS OF 2019** 

DRAFTED BY THE BENGALS!!



From Strong Rock Christian School in Locust Grove, Demetrius Knight Jr. @the\_chozenknight1 is the Cincinnati Bengals No. 49 pick in the #nfldraft

Draft coverage: https://2wsb.tv/4cMTFBY





We couldn't be prouder of Demetrius
Knight for being drafted by the Cincinnati
Bengals! His journey is a powerful
testimony to hard work, perseverance,
and character. Demetrius has not only
been a standout athlete, but he's also
been an exceptional young man—humble,
driven, and a leader on and off the field.



Jensy (Rush) (2020) & Demetrius Knight (2019)

The Bengals are getting more than a great player—they're getting someone who will make a difference in the locker room and the community.

We'll be cheering you on every step of the way, Demetrius! This is just the beginning!



Photo Credit - University of South Carolina Instagram - gamecockfb & bengals





## Joseph Eichelberger

**CLASS OF 2020** 

#### Congratulations, Joseph!

He was selected as one of the Top 44 HBCU Baseball Prospects in the country!

Catch him May 31 in Kannapolis, North Carolina, at Atrium Health Ballpark for the Minority Baseball Prospects HBCU All-Star Game!

May 29 - Battle of the Bands

May 30 - Minority Softball HBCU Showcase

May 31 - MBP HBCU All-Star Game

Tickets & Info: minorityprospects.com



### TOP HBCU PROSPECT IN COUNTRY

# Addi Nichols CLASS OF 2023 Jackson Palmer CLASS OF 2022 Dylan Silvey CLASS OF 2022 Grace Webb CLASS OF 2023



Jackson Palmer (2022)



Addi Nichols (2023)



Dylan Silvey (2022) and Grace Webb (2023)

Northside Baptist Church in Milledgeville, Georgia, had college day on March 2. This was a Sunday where the church had the regular-attending, college students give testimonies, lead worship, and preach. Four of the seven students involved were Strong Rock alumni.



This picture includes the pastor on the far left and on the far right, the college ministry leader, Jodi.

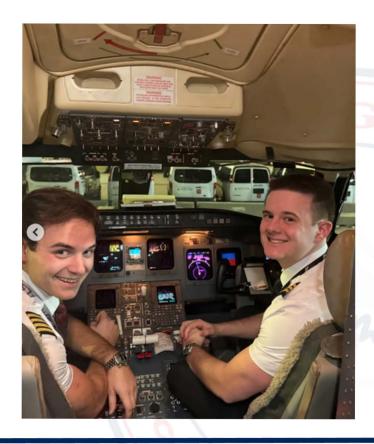
# Patriots in the Sky!

# Captain Cade Howell

**CLASS OF 2019** 

### First Officer TJ Blalock

**CLASS OF 2019** 



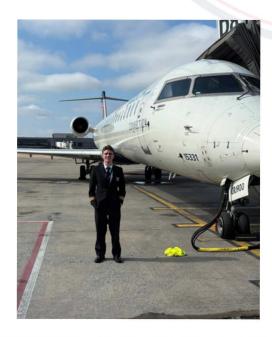


The flight crew for Delta Connection on January 1 were Strong Rock graduates - Captain Cade Howell and First Officer TJ Blalock.

We believe this is a first for our alumni.

# **First Officer Brandon Shelnutt**

**CLASS OF 2019** 





First Officer
Brandon
Shelnutt is also
flying with
Delta
Connection.

# **Haley Pearson**

**CLASS OF 2023** 

Alumni Oinstance

Haley is currently an Advertising major at the University of Georgia with a minor in Fashion Merchandising. She has been diving headfirst into the world of media, marketing, and fashion. Last summer, Haley interned at Modern Luxury, the #1 luxury media brand in the nation. It was an incredible experience where she led social media for Modern Luxury Weddings, won the intern sales competition, and even got to plan high-end events with budgets of \$25K+ at luxury hotels and a \$7M home.

Right now, Haley is the Creative Director of Rouge Magazine, UGA's student-run fashion and lifestyle publication. Rouge recently launched the Style Lab issue, which explores the science behind fashion: learning how psychology, history, and personal expression shape the way we dress every day. Haley states, "It has been amazing to blend creativity with research and dive deeper into what makes fashion so impactful."





"Being so involved at SRCS gave me the confidence to lead outside the classroom and the excitement to carve my own path after graduating.

Coming from such a close-knit school, stepping into a larger world was both an adjustment and an adventure, but I've loved every second of it!"









"To my fellow SRCS alumni— Chase the things that light you up! You never know where a passion project or an unexpected opportunity might lead. Don't be afraid to take a chance on something new, even if it feels out of your comfort zone—growth happens in the moments that challenge you the most.

And if anyone wants to talk about fashion, media, or social strategy, I'm always happy to connect!"

# **Caleb Boutwell**

**CLASS OF 2021** 

Alumni O. A. S. TIAN SCHOOL

Caleb was raised in a strong Christian household, regularly attending church and surrounded by faithful parents who were deeply involved in ministry. Although he considered himself a Christian growing up, his personal faith was largely rooted in his parents' beliefs. This changed dramatically just before his 16th birthday when his father suddenly passed away from a stroke. This traumatic event marked a turning point in his life, deeply affecting him and setting the stage for years of struggle.

After his father's death, Caleb fell into a pattern of addiction involving marijuana, alcohol, and pornography. These issues persisted through high school and worsened during his first years at Georgia Southern University, where fraternity life intensified his struggles. Eventually, he reached a breaking point, physically and emotionally drained. During this despair, he began to reflect, returned to the gym, and started dating a girl named Amber.

Together, they began to seek God again and attended the Passion Conference in Atlanta, where he fully surrendered his life to Christ.



"At the funeral there were so many people, but I remember one thing in particular, Coach Jacobi and Darrell Herring from Strong Rock were the very first ones in line to come see me and my family. This meant so much to me even to this day." From that moment, Caleb began actively serving as the fraternity chaplain, leading Bible studies and encouraging others in their faith. However, challenges remained, particularly in his relationship with Amber. When they discovered she was pregnant, Caleb initially responded with fear and a desire to take control, leaving God out of the picture. But through prayer and reflection, he recommitted to God's will and returned to school. This renewed faith led to marriage, the birth of their son, and graduation from college. Though their future remains uncertain, they express hope and trust in God's continued guidance.

"Looking back on my life, I can see that the reason God had me at Strong Rock was to teach me about the firm foundation to stand on with Christ."



### **Max Bateman**

**CLASS OF 2020** 

Max's heart for missions began in Padre Ramos,
Nicaragua, on a high school mission trip, where he first
encountered the power of God's love in relational ministry.
After that trip, he was hooked, pursuing missions
throughout high school until the global pandemic hit. He
began attending the University of Georgia (Go Dawgs!) in
the Fall of 2020 and, while there, joined a Christian
fraternity in pursuit of godly community—a choice that
would ultimately lead him back into the mission field.

In March 2023, Max went to Costa Rica for the first time on a spring break trip with his fraternity. While there, he once again felt the power of relational ministry, showing the love of God through every game played and every meal served. A sprained ankle turned into a calling to return over the summer; following his graduation, Max spent eight weeks deepening relationships as a Summer Staff Member for 6:8 Ministries. The summer was filled with many memories, from teaching his first English class barefoot to meeting lifelong friends, but his biggest takeaway was the purpose he felt each day waking up to serve others in God's name.

Following his summer experience, Max took a gap year to discern God's direction for the next chapter of his life, and every road kept leading back to Costa Rica. After returning the following summer, he officially committed to full-time mission work, stepping into dual roles as the Director of English as a Second Language and Director of Social Media Marketing for 6:8 Ministries. He spends his days teaching English, playing with kids, serving the homeless, and sharing the work God is doing in Costa Rica.

"I can say with full confidence that I am doing my dream job; every day, I get to roll out of bed and show people the love of God. Looking back, it's obvious God was working in my life to bring me to this moment."

Max would be honored for you to partner with him, in prayer and in financial giving, in God's ministry to the beautiful country of Costa Rica.









# **ALUMNI NEWS- Weddings**



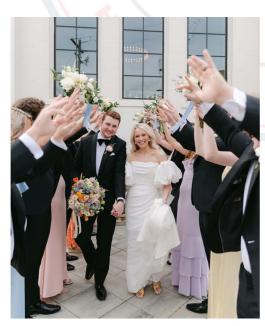
Ansley (Hutcheson) (2017) & Andrew Bailey Married December 2024



Bailey (Adams) (2019) & Hunter Jenkins Married January 2025



Grace (Wagers) (2017) & Zach Kennedy (2016) Married March 2025



Palmer & Nic Waddell (2020) Married March 2025



Julie & Cody Hall (2019) Married March 2025

# **ALUMNI NEWS- Weddings**



Katie &
Kenny Mills (2019)
Married April 2025



Grayce (Keefer) (2019) & Kennedy Moorman (2018) Married April 2025



Anslee (Sprayberry) (2021) & Michael Wanzer Married April 2025



Brooke (Cain) (2021) & Brayden Eidson (2019) Married April 2025



Rachel & Coleman Shockley (2017) Married May 2025

# **ALUMNI NEWS - Engagements**



Alexis Brown (2021) & Manning Morris

Engaged



Hannah Reagan (2023) &
Alex Wright
Engaged



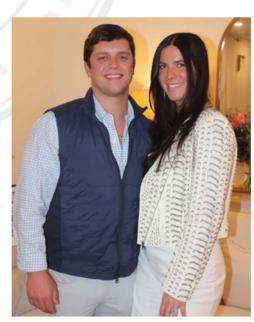
Addison Clark (2019) & Mathew Gordon Engaged



Peyton Walker (2019) & Jackson Mulkey *Engaged* 

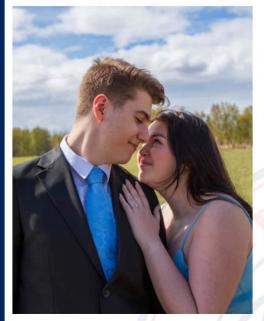


Camryn Fields (2017) & Cash Rabinowitch *Engaged* 



Liddy Strickland (2015) & George Hart Engaged

# **ALUMNI NEWS - Engagements**



Faith Rice & Isaiah Peterson (2023) *Engaged* 



Mallory Moss (2016) & Taylor Cranford Engaged



Jessica Marant & Trevor Borom (2020) *Engaged* 



Samantha Malek (2023) & Eli Middlebrooks Engaged



Claire Waggoner (2022) & Allen Martin Engaged

# **ALUMNI NEWS- Babies**



Kaylee &
Tyler Rice (2013)
Boy - Redburn Saint (Red)
December 2024



Kirsten &
Austin Hester (2014)
Girl - Calla Jo
December 2024



Taylor (Blevins) (2015) & Grant Crane Girl - Charley Ann December 2024



London & Seth Thompson (2017) Boy - Phillip Laine December 2024



Ashley (Henderson) (2012) & Tate Gardner Boy - Graham Matthew December 2024

# **ALUMNI NEWS- Babies**



Juli (Higginbotham) (2015) & Neal Stewart Girl - Blair Elizabeth January 2025



Bethany (Britt) (2012) & Silas Yarbrough Boy - Brooks Taylor January 2025



Amber & Caleb Boutwell (2021) Boy - Bo Dixon January 2025



Kaylin (Smith) (2016) & Jonah Whitten Girl - Collins LeeAnna February 2025



McKenzie (Washington) (2017) & Brice Dodson Boy - Baylor Brandon May 2025



Bryson (Moorman) (2020) & Andrew Greer Girl - Adalyn Sage May 2025

# **ALUMNI NEWS- Expecting**



Hannah-Grace (Mann) (2017) & Hudson Hedgecoth (2016) Expecting



Savannah (Ward) (2014) &
Todd Gregory
Expecting



Sarah & Zach Moss (2013) Expecting



Morgan (Hutcheson) (2013) & Grant Hatch Expecting



Chelsea (Mann) (2011) & Jesse Adams (2014) Expecting



Kaci & Matthew Gaudry (2017) Expecting

# **ALUMNI OWNED BUSINESSES**



leb is proud to provide excellent insurance in Cumming, GA and the trounding areas of Alpharetta, Dawsonville, Duluth, and Roswell. ensed to service the entire state of Georgia, Caleb's State Farm imming, GA office focuses in the areas of: Auto Insurance Home & Renters insurance Home & Renters insurance Health insurance Health insurance Health insurance























# **Keep Christ at the Center of Summer Plans**



"For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him." (Philippians 2:13)



Whether you have a busy summer ahead, or you are looking forward to taking time off to relax, it is important to keep Christ at the center of your summer plans.

Sometimes, it is easy for us to slip into a routine and feel as though we do not have purpose. However, the Bible warns us about being neutral when it comes to our faith. Matthew 12:30 says, "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters."

How can we live intentionally for Christ? We must change our perspective to realize that every moment can be used to fulfill God's calling on our lives. When we remember that God is transforming us and working through our lives, we can keep Him at the center of our plans.

So, what does this look like?

It is important to keep Christ as the focus in all aspects of our lives, no matter how small they may seem. For example, we can strive to keep Christ at the center of our relationships, whether they are relationships we have with our family, friends or coworkers.

In addition, by living intentionally and spending time in God's Word, we can discern right from wrong and avoid sin. Hebrews 5:14 says, "Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong."

Furthermore, we can be intentional in the way we pray. Colossians 4:2 says, "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."

This summer, I encourage you to live intentionally and allow Christ to be at the center of everything you do. No matter where we are or what we are doing, we are called as Christians to be intentional for Christ. Allow Him to be the focus of every area of your life and completely submit to His will.

As a result, He will empower you to live a purposeful life that glorifies Him!

Posted - April 22, 2016 by <u>Lauren Abraham</u> in [<u>Spiritual Life</u>] on GCU.edu

SUMMER DEVOTIONAL





Have a Great Summer!

The Strong Rock faculty & staff are cheering you on and praying for you always!

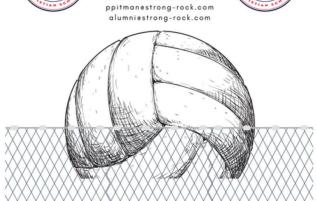


# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

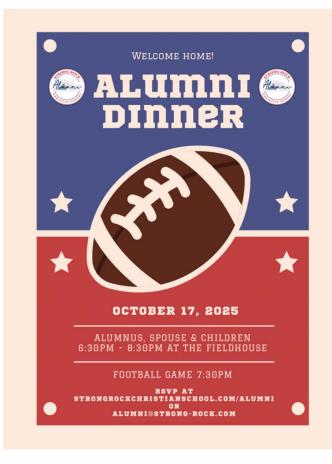
### STRONG ROCK ALUMNI VOLLEYBALL

GAME TUESDAY











The SRCS Drama Department **Dates Coming Soon** 

Do you want to be featured in the next Alumni newsletter?





alumni@strong-rock.com





