

NOVEMBER NEWS

Pastor's Chapel:

This Year's Pastor's Chapel will be on Thursday, February 13th from 8:00 am to 9:30 am in the HCS auditorium. Students in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade will participate in presentations to celebrate our local Pastors. All Pastors are welcome to attend!

Please RSVP to

tbentzel@heritagechristianschool.org
or call 330-452-8271 Ext. 318.

Christmas Programs:

Join us as we celebrate this Christmas season!

Dec. 12th Family Christmas K – 4th grade 6:00 pm in the auditorium (students arrive in classes at 5:30 pm)

Dec. 13th Christmas Band and Choir Ensemble Program 4th – 8th 6:00 pm (students arrive at 5:30 pm)

Honor Roll Students:

In the first 9 weeks of school, we had 28 1st – 8th grade students who achieved all A's on their report cards. They received an ice cream treat as a reward. We are so proud of them.

Young Author's Conference Field Trip:

Thanks to Mrs. Daugherty, a group of students from our Middle School were accepted to attend the Young Author's Conference in Wooster, Ohio. There, they listened to four authors discuss how to write and illustrate books. Each author wrote a different genre. The students received a free book and were able to receive author signatures on them.



YEAR END GIVING

A message from Todd Bentzel, our Director of Development:

As 2024 comes to a close, we reflect upon the enormous blessings which God has provided for our school this past calendar year. Through the generosity of so many individuals, businesses and foundations, Heritage Christian School was able to move forward on several key initiatives and capital projects this past year.

With the New Year rapidly approaching, we set our sights upon funding for 2025. Each year at this time, we launch our annual year-end appeal where we humbly ask you to consider making a tax-deductible contribution to Heritage Christian School. Your donations are a driving force in sustaining our mission to "provide an outstanding education experience grounded in Christian values, academic excellence and family.

If you would like to take advantage of that **2024 tax-deductible gift**, you can do it on or before **December 31, 2024** by either:

- **Credit card** by dialing 330-452-8271 Ext. 300
or Online at <https://www.heritagechristianschool.org/giving>
- **By mailing your check to:**
Heritage Christian School
2107 Sixth Street SW
Canton, Ohio 44706
Attention: Todd Bentzel



Heritage
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**Thank you! Have a Merry
Christmas and a blessed 2025!**





**Heritage
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Heritage Christian School is seeking board members.

Are you looking for a way to help support and advance the mission of Christ to others? Do you have limited time, but desire to carry out this life purpose? If so, Heritage Christian School is a great local mission field where you might achieve these goals.

head of school. Each person uses his or her personal experience and professional background to help lead and guide the strategic direction of the school.

The Board currently meets bi-monthly with committee meetings in the alternating months. The Board is currently seeking individuals who have industry knowledge in education, grant and fund development, and marketing to serve as Board members and committee members.

If you or someone you know might be interested in learning more about this opportunity, please visit <https://www.heritagechristianschool.org/volunteering>

As its governing body, the Heritage Board of Education is comprised of individuals with different business and spiritual skill-sets who act in an advisory role to the school's

Preschool Highlight

October was Storybook Month and we challenged our families and classrooms to collectively read 500 books by the 31st. We invited teachers, students, administration, and staff to read in classrooms and, of course, encouraged at-home reading as well. Collectively we read over 536 books and celebrated with a party! Top readers were given a new book and all students enjoyed an Eric Carle-inspired celebration! We made books, created masterpieces, prepared and ate grouchy ladybug snacks, and had a Brown Bear, Brown Bear



What Do You See? Scavenger hunt! It was encouraging to have so much parents' support to reach our goal easily. We may have to increase our reading goal next school year!





National School Lunch Week Celebration

We celebrated National School Lunch Week in October. The national theme this year was "School Lunch Pirates, Find Your Treasure!" We displayed many treasure maps around the cafeteria emphasizing that our true treasure is found in JESUS! The students enjoyed looking at all the maps and finding a small treat on their lunch tray each day. The Lunch Ladies received many colored pictures and thank you notes from students throughout the week. It was a great week enjoyed by all.

Fall Field Trips

Our students have had some wonderful adventures so far this year. Fourth grade went to Fannie May Chocolate Factory (Yum!), Preschool and Kindergarten visited Ramseyer Farm, First grade traveled to Arrowhead Orchard (so many pumpkins) and Fifth grade toured McKinley Museum (star gazing at the planetarium). The students have truly enjoyed all their field trips. We can't wait to see the next adventures that are coming up for our students.



COMMUNITY UPDATE

GOOD NEWS CLUB

On seven Tuesdays in the fall and again in the spring, The Good News Club comes to the Heritage Christian School library to meet with students in grades 1 through 5. The Good News Club, under the umbrella of Child Evangelism Fellowship and sponsored locally by Dueber Church, is comprised of eight trained volunteers who engage the children in ninety minutes of fun ways to learn about the Bible. The Good News Club is filled with songs, Bible lessons, prayer time, memory work, missionary stories and snacks. This year, 32 students have signed up for the club. We appreciate this program for our students!

PET PARTNERS "READ WITH ME"

When Bert Smith enters Heritage Christian School with his dog, Alli, a certain excitement fills the air. The students immediately recognize that it is once again time for Pet Partners "Read with Me". Now in its fourth year at

Heritage Christian School, Pet Partners "Read with Me" is a tremendously popular method to encourage reading. Open to students in 2nd through 8th grade, the program involves two students at a time reading with Alli. More specifically, one reads while the other pets our canine companion. Then they switch. We had a chance to ask Bert a few questions about the program:

Q1: What do you like best about bringing Alli to Heritage Christian School?

Response: I really love meeting the students. They're the greatest. You also obviously have great support from your staff. Alli likes people and people like her.

Q2: How does Alli respond to the visits?

Response: She starts responding before we even leave the house. As we are packing, she is so excited. When we arrive, she trots up the stairs and knows where she is going. It takes her a little bit of time for her to calm down and then she gets totally relaxed. She finds that same peaceful, kind and comforting feeling there that I do.

Q3: What does this program at Heritage Christian School mean to you?

Response: I am impressed with what is going on there at the school; the diversity, the knowledge that the students are getting and the faith-based community. It makes me hopeful for the future.





HELPING CANTON, NORTH CAROLINA

Hurricane Helene left a devastating path of destruction in the southern United States.

One of the states which was hardest hit is North Carolina. Severe flooding has been particularly tough on the community of

Canton, North Carolina. When

Mrs. Randle's 2nd grade class at Heritage Christian School discovered that children in a city in North Carolina that bears the same name as our own were suffering, they decided to do something about it. They discovered Miss Jones' 2nd grade class at Bethel Christian Academy in Canton, North Carolina and immediately sent letters to the students. Later, a virtual meeting was held allowing all of the students from both classrooms the opportunity to talk with one another face to face. During that conversation, Heritage Christian students heard story after story from their North Carolina peers about the destruction caused by the flooding. Clean up is still ongoing as mud is piled high and some areas are still without power. Bethel Christian Academy is meeting in a local church as their school building has been closed temporarily due to the flood damage. The virtual meeting concluded with both classrooms huddled around their respective cameras joining in prayer. One student in particular was hard hit. His name is Abel. He lost most of his possessions and is currently without many things. Mrs. Randle's class is heading up an effort to help provide clothing and toys for Abel. If you would like to help them with this effort, please contact Todd Bentzel, Director of Development at 330-452-8271 Ext. 318.

OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY PITCHING IN

Our school is housed in an incredible building. Two years from now, it will turn 100 years old. What a blessing to be able to teach our children in such a historical Canton landmark. However, when you have a building that old and as large as ours, there are always plenty of projects that need completed. From painting to clean-up to yard work, many of these projects require the efforts of many more individuals than we have available on our staff. That is why we are so thankful when local organizations reach out to us and volunteer to carry the workload on some of the bigger projects. We were blessed this past spring and summer to receive such help on Serve Days from the following:

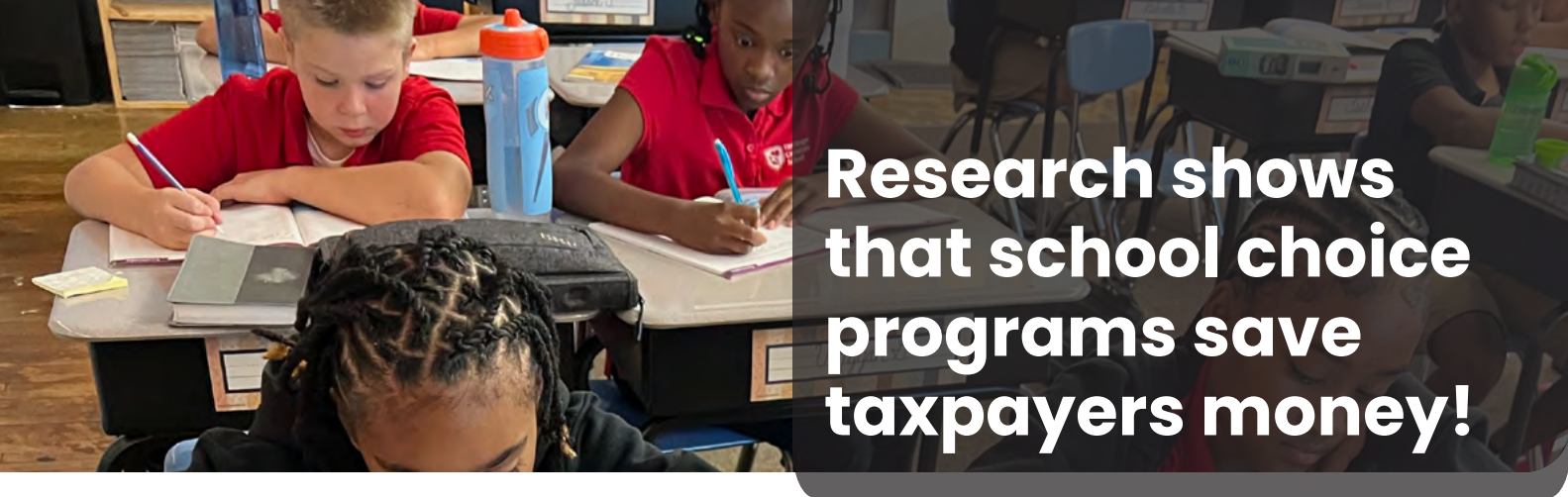
- **RiverTree Church**
- **AultCare**
- **Faith Family Church**
- **NewPointe Community Church**

With their help, we were able to take care of many major projects. Many thanks for their great support!

Join us for our Christmas celebrations!

Preschool will present "*My Best-est Friend*" by Bette Dale Moore on Friday, December 6 at 5:30p. Students will be dressed as tiny shepherds celebrating Jesus' birthday!





Research shows that school choice programs save taxpayers money!

Two-parent families matter!

“The prevalence of two-parent families in communities predicts their average level of student achievement and social mobility rates...even after adjusting for income, education, ethnic composition, racial segregation, and other community factors.” According to research from Education Next titled Families: Engines of Equal Opportunity. When Moms and Dads stay together both kids and society win!

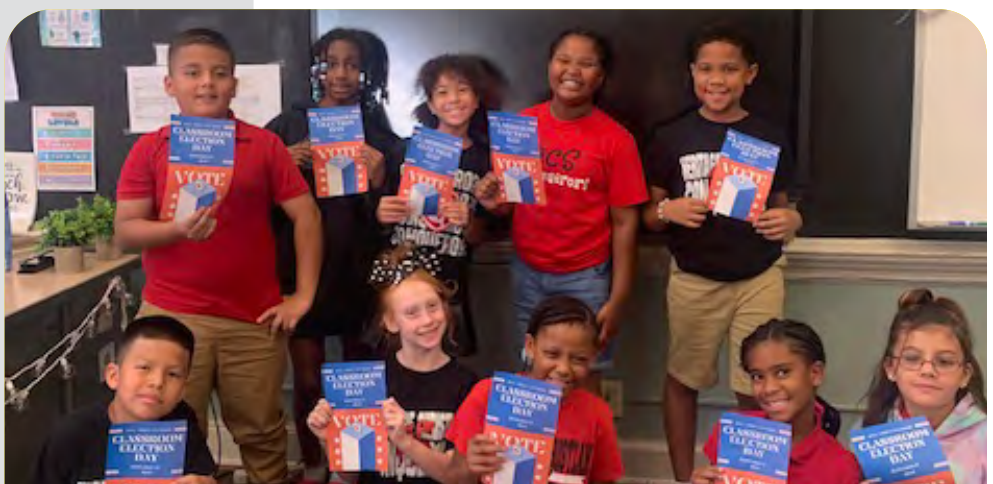
Know someone who wants to enroll in our life-changing education experience?

Heritage Christian School starts enrolling for next school year in January. Visit the website or call the office to schedule a tour for enrollment in grades preschool (age 3 and potty trained) through grade 8.

According to **The Fiscal Effects of School Choice**, a new EdChoice report, 48 school choice programs were analyzed across 25 states. The study found many financial benefits to taxpayers. Findings include:

- **The school choice programs** generated cumulative net fiscal benefits for state and local taxpayers of an estimated \$19.4 to \$45.6 billion.
- **The net fiscal benefit to taxpayers** equals about \$3,300 to \$7,800 per program participant.
- **States experienced fiscal benefits** of an estimated \$1.70 to \$2.64 for every dollar spent on a school choice program.
- **Across the 26 states**, funding for public schools was \$17,011 per student compared to only \$6,112 for choice programs.
- **Total funding for education choice programs** across the 26 states amounted to only 1% of the public school system cost. 99% of the funding still went to the public K-12 school systems.
- **“The evidence is clear:** taxpayers benefit, school districts adapt well, and students – both in and out of the choice programs – experience better outcomes.”

See the full details and article at: <https://www.edchoice.org/engage/the-fiscal-effects-of-school-choice/>



Athletic Updates

If you think of Heritage Christian School sports, the name of Coach Jamey McKenzie is bound to come to mind. Coach "Mac" has been heading up the boys' basketball program for the Conquerors since 2016. Anyone who watches him coach will readily see how much he cares for his players and the game of basketball. Season after season, he continues to pour into the young men who are part of his successful basketball program. Coming off of a 7-3 campaign last season, this year's team has five returning players and a full schedule as follows:

Saturday, November 16	@ 10:00 AM Invitational Tournament @ Faith Christian Academy [3 games]
Monday, November 18	@ 5:00 PM @ Faith Christian Academy
Monday, November 25	@ 5:00 PM @ Faith Christian Academy
Tuesday, November 26	@ 5:00 PM @ Hartville Christian
Tuesday, December 3	@ 5:00 PM @ Arlington Christian Academy
Thursday, December 5	@ 4:30 PM @ St. Michael's
Monday, December 9	@ 5:00 PM @ Hartville Christian
Thursday, December 12	@ 5:00 PM @Arlington Christian Academy
Thursday, December 19	@ 4:30 PM @ St. Michael's
Monday, January 6	@ 5:00 PM @ Carrollton Christian
Monday, January 13	@ 4:30 PM @ St. Michael's
Tuesday, January 14	@ 5:00 PM @ Carrollton Christian
Saturday, January 18	@ 8:30 AM @ St. Michaels

We hope to see you courtside as we cheer for our Conquerors!



Spiritual Life at HCS

The Bible states in Zechariah 4:10 "Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin". At Heritage we have had a great start to the year and the hand of God is moving. At least fourteen students so far this year have made the life altering decision to give their lives to Jesus this year! This is incredible news. We have seen relationships restored between students and some students have matured in their walk with Christ. We are excited about what God is doing here and are eagerly embracing this move of God!

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

On behalf of the students and staff at Heritage Christian School, Mr. Bentzel, Director of Development and Volunteer Coordinator, extends a heartfelt "thank you" to each one of our many individuals who volunteer their time to help our school. Each of our volunteers brings their unique gifts and talents to our school and shares them, along with their time, producing amazing results. We are so grateful for all they do. If you would like to join our volunteer team, please give Mr. Bentzel a call at 330-452-8271 Ext. 318 or sign up at <https://www.heritagechristianschool.org/volunteering>



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Want to give a child a scholarship at NO cost to yourself?

Use your tax dollars to help HCS students!

The state of Ohio's Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) tax credit authorizes donors who contribute to K-12 student scholarships through a certified SGO to receive a dollar-for-dollar reduction in their state taxes up to \$750 per individual taxpayer. A married couple can give in each person's name to double the \$750 to \$1,500! When you file your taxes, you will get your donation back if you fully paid your taxes, or the amount you gave will reduce the amount you owe in Ohio taxes.

Questions? Call Todd Bentzel at 330-452-8271 Ext. 318 or email tbentzel@heritagechristianschool.org.



Ready to Give Now? **DONATE HERE** & Choose Heritage Christian School - Canton
<https://ohiocen.org/ocen-sgo/donate/>