

ISSUE 4 • JANUARY 2019

# TAKENOTE



A MONTHLY REVIEW

CONNECTIONS • COMMUNITY • CURRICULUM



**BUNDLE UP  
BECAUSE WE  
STILL HAVE  
STATESMEN  
BASKETBALL!**

*cover picture credit Kayla Wolfe*



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OUR INSTAGRAM @NHCA\_STATESMEN





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## THE POSITION OF STRENGTH, WHETHER IN GREAT NEED OR NOT,

is a position of dependence, desperation, and surrender.



PILLAR

1

SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD

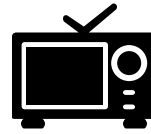
Just about any school has an overarching vision and goal of educating and preparing students to be productive citizens for their future. This is certainly important and a definite focus for our students. We are committed to providing a rigorous and relevant educational experience for our students, but we have a different end in mind. We are not just another school with the same goals and vision. Our constant focus and goal is to be centered around seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. Our greatest desire is to know God personally and intimately on a daily basis. No matter what goes on around us, it is critical to never lose sight that following Christ is a way of life, where our eyes remain fixed on Him. Matthew 6:33 says, *“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”* Psalm 27:4 says, *“One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.”* There is a temptation when we get excited about what the Lord is doing to run off and try to operate under our own strength, and we lose our dependence and desire to stay or remain. Then when we run into difficulties on that journey the source for endurance and perseverance is not there, because we left His presence or became prideful of our grand ideas and accomplishments.

Maybe sometimes we might run off too fast missing the actual blessing of receiving the power of the truth instead of just the knowledge of the truth. Big difference between the two. What would it look like if we tried to be intentional about remaining first to be filled, so we could then walk in a state of overflowing? Paul talked about learning a secret of how to be content in all things, whether in great need or having everything. He simply said that he can do all things through Christ who gives him strength. Could it also be said that he needed Christ's strength in all things whether in great need or not? I get excited about what God is doing at New Hope, but the worst thing we can do is to try and run away from a desperate communion with Him daily in that excitement, because we think we have it all covered or have great new ideas. I believe the experiences we have as a collective group of educators will serve us well, but I am more concerned about remaining desperate in all things and helping to lead in that same posture of desperation for Him. The position of strength, whether in great need or not, is a position of dependence, desperation, and surrender. The secret Paul found out was that his circumstances didn't dictate his contentment, level of joy, level of excitement, or his need for Christ. He removed the glasses of circumstances and saw that in ALL THINGS he needed Christ, and he could do ALL THINGS through Christ's strength.



Join me as we take a look back at all the great things happening at New Hope in this edition of “Take Note.”

In Christ,  
Jamie King | Head of School



Tune into the

# SOAPS

*written by Pastor Dave Gray*

Each week our high school Bible students write SOAPs. "SOAP" stands for:

**SCRIPTURE  
OBSERVATION  
APPLICATION  
PRAYER**

During the week of January 14th - 18th students actually presented their SOAPs to their fellow classmates. Each student was to choose scripture from Judges 14-16, which is the account of Samson, and share a mini-sermon/devotional.

I was extremely proud of the students as they presented on many different topics from that scripture. Students challenged other students to choose their friends wisely, to trust God even when they don't completely understand everything that is happening, and choosing to live a life that pleases God.

The goal of the project was to prepare students to lead a small group study and prepare them to speak in a chapel setting, while learning how to dig deeper into scripture.



## E X E M P L A R Y

## STATESMEN

*written by Allison Catlos, MS/HS Principal*

One elementary and one high school student were recognized at last month's school board meeting for their efforts in displaying one or more of the six pillars of New Hope Christian Academy.

Karsyn Cline is one of our kindergarten students who consistently demonstrates the qualities of a Statesman. Even in her family interview last spring, Karsyn expressed that she wanted to attend a school where she could learn more about God. Karsyn's parents, David and Malesa, felt it was important for her to be hearing the same message at home, church, and school about the awesome love of God.

Karsyn always has a smile on her face and is a great friend to her classmates. She has said that chapel and Bible are her favorite parts of the day. Karsyn is a true example of a little girl who has a thirst for knowing more about Christ.

Her teacher explains further that, "Karsyn loves to talk about Jesus and she has an amazing understanding of His love for us and our need to have Him in our lives. She will share in both class and chapel enthusiastically.

Earlier this month, we were talking about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. With great boldness, Karsyn spoke up and stated that even though the three men may have been scared being thrown in the fiery furnace, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego did the right thing. They knew that bowing down to an idol was wrong and that they should only worship the one true God. She continued to say that God was with them and never left them while they were in the fire. She understood that God does same for us... in our lives. He is with us at home, church, school...wherever we go. God is with us when we are scared to try something new. He is with us during school when it may be difficult to tell a friend that they hurt our feelings. All we have to do is ask for His help."

Karsyn was recognized for her demonstration of Pillar 1: Seeking First the Kingdom of God; and Pillar 2: Leaving an Eternal Legacy.

Tessa Finkle, one of our high school juniors, is not only a hardworking young lady, but she also displays three of the pillars of a Statesman.

Recently, Tessa shared a project that her youth group started at her church and brought up the idea of implementing it here at New Hope. She presented the following idea: "What would it look like if each girl in our discipleship group took in a middle school girl as part of a mentorship program? It would be cool if they had one of us to help them through middle and high school. We could encourage them, eat lunch with them, pray for and with them, and just be a friend to them. I mean, we know what they're going through because we've been through it too."

This action on Tessa's part demonstrates everything that we want our students here at New Hope to possess: to see a need and not expect someone else to respond, but to initiate change themselves. This program is something that excites our young women and allows them to leave a legacy with their fellow students. It shows, firsthand, how we can walk through life with each other and carry one another during difficult times. It builds a bridge between middle school and high school students and creates a culture of acceptance and love.

Tessa was recognized for the displaying Pillar 2: Leaving an Eternal Legacy; Pillar 4: Fellowship of the Mat; and Pillar 5: Partnerships.



picture credit Julie Heidish





written by Kimberly Shepherd, Elementary Principal

**Romans 12:1-2** *"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."*

Our third quarter discipleship theme is GROWTH. All grades gathered in the sanctuary earlier this week to hear a message prepared by our administrators on what it means to grow in our faith. To be saved is only part one of following Christ. God calls us to daily grow and be transformed into His likeness. We believe that it is futile to only store up knowledge about God's Word. By His Spirit, we want to be transformed in all areas of our life.

Students were introduced to the memory verse and then identified several items that we use as babies. The students also viewed several baby photos from staff members and observed how our physical growth affects our bodies. **Spiritual growth, like physical growth, is also evident.** However, spiritual growth is identified by our thoughts and deeds as we strive to be more and more like Jesus.



Students heard a testimony from special guest speaker, Noah Highfield. Noah is a 2018 alumni of NHCA, and is presently studying at Otterbein University. Noah spoke about how Romans 12:1-2 has been evident in his life as he strives to live out God's plan for his life.



The students and staff are looking forward to our discipleship time together this quarter as we study what it means to grow in our faith.

# ARE WE DESPERATE ENOUGH?

*written by Amy Pohlman, ELC Chapel Director*

Have you ever been so hungry, you couldn't wait for your next bite of something to quench your appetite? Our theme for the month of January in the Early Learning Center has been "The Market" and we have been learning that, just like food - WE NEED JESUS!

I remember when I was very young, I helped my grandmother restock shelves at the food pantry at her church. Free food for whoever needed it. I remember watching people stand in line desperate with a need, then after asking, they received. A system quite simple, but perhaps for them it was not. I never knew them personally, I never knew the journey that would lead them to that place, that day. Until I became desperate myself.

I was desperate for something I needed more than anything. I was desperate for something that would quench my "appetite". That something was actually someone, the ONLY one that can fill any void- JESUS!

This month I was privileged to teach two of my favorite true stories of Jesus. These stories had a common theme, desperation and mud. **The Blind Man - Mud and me/you.** The story of Bartimaeus (the blind beggar) in John 9 and Luke 18. It may be a lot easier to simply read from the pages of a book, but it is way more fun and memorable if someone does something to bring a story to life. So, even though I looked ridiculous, and felt a bit embarrassed, I dressed up, complete with beard and mustache and acted the role as the "blind man". We learned that this blind man was blind since birth and he was DESPERATE for a change in his life. The only one that could heal him was Jesus, and when he heard Jesus was there, he cried out in desperation for Jesus to heal him. In this story, Jesus took some dirt, added his own spit, and put this now mud on the blind man's eyes. In our story, I didn't want to bring dirt into the school and I definitely didn't want preschool spit on me, so I brought chocolate pudding (our new mud). The fun part was allowing them to act like Jesus and let them smear the chocolate pudding all over my eyes! Gross, perhaps, memorable - you bet! According to God's word, once this blind man was obedient to Jesus and washed the mud off - he was healed and was able to see!





### The Paralytic Man and his Friends - Mud and

**others.** Jesus heals the paralyzed man - Mark 2:1-12 and Luke 5:17-26. In this true story there was a paralyzed man who desperately needed Jesus. He was DESPERATE for a change in his life. The only one that could heal him was Jesus. When his friends heard Jesus was there, they did whatever they could to get their paralyzed friend to Jesus. Restricted to a mat, the four friends carried him to the place where Jesus was. They tried to simply take him through the front door but the place was packed. Even outside the door, there was no room. The friends didn't give up! They didn't let obstacles get in the way of getting their friend to Jesus! In bible times, homes were built of stone and had flat roofs made with mud mixed with straw and or mud tiles. These friends got their paralyzed friend up on the roof, then started taking the roof apart! They took apart as much of the mud structure as was necessary to make a hole big enough for their friend to fit through.

Only after all their hard work, could they then lower their friend through the hole in the roof, right in front of Jesus! God's word says that Jesus saw their faith, not just the paralytic's faith but the faith of the friends. Then, Jesus not only healed their sins, but also healed their paralyzed friend. "Immediately the paralyzed man stood up, took his mat, and went home praising God, and those watching were amazed, and gave praise to God!" The preschoolers were very happy that our froggy friend was healed and was able to hop back home too.

All of us fit into either one (or both) of these stories because we all need Jesus, but ARE WE DESPERATE ENOUGH? Maybe there is something going on in your life and you feel "restricted" like the blind man or the paralyzed man. Are we willing like the blind man to "call out" to Jesus? Only Jesus can truly heal/change anyone. What if people rebuke and tell you to be quiet? Like the blind man, "shout all the more" in desperation to Jesus! You will be changed! Jesus is there and Jesus is wanting to give you EVERYTHING you need! Just like our ELC January memory verse states, "You (Jesus) are EVERYTHING I need." Psalm 119:57. Maybe Jesus is the LORD of your life, but we all know someone who needs to be taken to Jesus so they can be "healed/changed". (Like the paralytic and the four friends.) Are we desperate enough to do whatever it takes to get our friends to the only one that can truly help them?

Yes, there will be obstacles and it will be hard work, but Matthew 17: 20-21 states that "even with faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." Our faith affects others! We cannot make another person a Christian, but we can do whatever it takes to give them a chance to respond to the one they need the most - JESUS!

I pray we recognize the desperate need and respond.

Blessed to Serve,  
Amy Pohlman

### DESPERATE NEED FOR FOOD

We are collecting nonperishable food items until the end of February and donating them to our local food pantry.



### DESPERATE NEED FOR JESUS

Call out to Jesus and make Him Lord of your life, then do whatever it takes to take as many people you can, directly to Jesus and give them a chance to respond to Him. *Yes, you might get some mud on your face or some mud under your fingernails but it will be absolutely worth it!*

EST. 2018

# BERGER HEALTH PARTNERS WITH NHCA

Caring for our Athletes

OFFICIAL SPORTS MEDICINE  
PROVIDER FOR



BERGER HEALTH SYSTEM



In December of 2018, New Hope Christian Academy's Athletic Department partnered with Berger Health Systems. Susan Strawser, Berger's Director of Workplace Health and Wellness, was instrumental in including NHCA among the local county schools they already serve. Berger agreed to provide a Certified Athletic Trainer at all of the NHCA high school home games throughout the school year. The following Athletic Trainers have worked together to ensure all of the NHCA events are covered: Cara Acksel, Caleb Betz, Shannon Hegarty, and Rob Snow.



Brian Roseberry  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

**"BERGER AND THEIR STAFF HAS BEEN AN UNBELIEVABLE BLESSING TO OUR ATHLETIC PROGRAM -FROM TAPING ANKLES AND WRISTS TO PROVIDING US THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT TO KEEP OUR ATHLETES SAFE, BERGER HAS REALLY COME THROUGH. THEIR EFFORT TO INCLUDE NHCA IS EXTREMELY APPRECIATED BY THE ADMINISTRATION, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND EVERY ATHLETE."**

*On January 25, Berger blessed NHCA with a Trainer's Table to set-up in the all-new NHCA Training Room, which is located off of the Athletic Director's office.*





For the 2018-2019, I stepped out of my comfort zone and tried a new math curriculum called Guided Math that Works! I am so glad that I did this. This is my sixth year teaching and I have seen a love for math in my students this year that I haven't seen before. Guided Math allows for me to differentiate my instruction daily.

Differentiation in math is extremely important in providing students the best instruction they can get! During Guided Math, students are split into groups that are decided upon based on where they are in their math journey. I also get to work with 3-5 students at a time, allowing me to immediately guide students in their learning. My students this year are understanding our concepts quicker and retaining them longer. I am so happy I incorporated Guided Math this year, it has been so much fun to teach this way! I can't wait to see where it takes my students!

*written by Abigail Kamer, 3rd grade teacher*

