

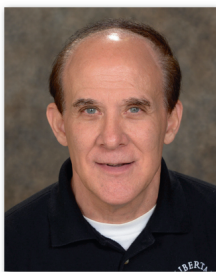


# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## FOURTH QUARTER 2019

### LEADING THE LEGACY

#### BOB DAVIS



In the last edition of our Libertas Community Update, we introduced our new school slogan, “Intentionally Classical, Vibrantly Christian” and explored the meaning of our being “Intentionally Classical”. In today’s editorial, the topic is the second portion of our school mantra, “Vibrantly Christian” as we examine what we mean by this terminology. First though, a series of questions arise. Is a school “Christian” simply because prayer is added to the classroom, while academic content remains secular in nature? Or is it a Christian school because a Bible class and chapel is required for the students? And finally, is a school “Christian” because it utilizes Christian content and faculty, who are Believers? Or are there deeper elements that frame and create a Christian school? Examining these questions turn the lens back on us at Libertas Christian School . . . how are we “Vibrantly Christian”? And what are the distinctives that make us so?

After pondering the above questions, core elements surface as ongoing components of life at Libertas over these last five years. Certainly, these have developed from “baby steps” as a young school and have grown in depth and breadth overtime and will continue to do so as Libertas goes forward into the future. Therefore, we offer the following:

**A tone of respect:** A mutual respect between students, faculty and staff permeates Libertas life based on John 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” This component is largely evident to anyone who walks the halls at Libertas.

**All things flow from God:** All subjects are derived from the same source, the heart, mind and works of the Lord. His revealed truth, via the Word, is a discussion point in every academic subject.

**Consistent prayer and worship:** Every class includes prayer and worship at its beginning, while weekly chapel services foster corporate worship among the students and faculty as well. Moreover, spontaneous student-led prayer circles often occur in the school halls when an urgent need is perceived.

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First Annual Middle School Mother/Daughter Volleyball game



Grand Parent and Special Friend's Day 2019

LIBERTAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
INVITES YOUR  
PASTORAL STAFF AS OUR  
HONORED AND CELEBRATED GUESTS

### *Pastor's Day 2020*

ENJOY BREAKFAST  
WELCOME STUDENTS TO SCHOOL  
ATTEND CHAPEL

Thursday, January 23, 2020

7:00 am - 9:30 am

Libertas Christian School  
5181 64th Ave. Hudsonville, MI 49426

RSVP to this free event by January 18  
[LibertasChristianSchool.org/events](https://LibertasChristianSchool.org/events)  
616-669-2270



Becky Pusztai, Marissa Berghorst, and Michelle Myers at the Do More Good Non-Profit Conference.



2019 State of the School Address

God is doing exciting things at Libertas! The equivalent of 141 New Monthly Recurring Legacy Partners have joined the mission since the State of the School address in September! We are 259 away from our goal of 400 Legacy Partners at \$25/month by June 2020. How can you help us reach this goal?

### Save the date!

March 19, 2020 is the first annual Legacy Gala Dinner, formerly known as the Celebration Banquet. More details to come.

*Intentionally Classical  
Vibrantly Christian*

*Save the Date*

**LIBERTAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**  
presents the first annual

*Legacy Gala*

Thursday, March 19, 2020  
Grace Community Church  
Hudsonville, MI




## HONORING THE LEGACY

Gifts were given in honor of the following

Athletic Department	Bettie Davis	Rebekah Goldberg	Katrina Schumaker
Coach Swinger	Ruth Kaercher	Leah Griess	Valerie Dewey
Natalie Breeden	Barb Boersen	Emily Steenwyk	Angela Dieleman
Robert Davis	Patty Baribeau	Cheryl Gordillo	Ruthie Brand
Sunday Wehrman	Rachel Smith	Chris Feenstra	Becky Pusztai
Anna Kinde	Anne Brown	Volleyball	Soccer
Tom Holt	Mark Congrove	Pam Wright	Legacy Partner Marketing
Willson Nemec	Lori Bouslog	Faith Hinken	Material
Anna English	Kitchen/Hot Lunch	Jessica MacMaster	

### *In Memory of Esther Feenstra*



## LIBERTAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### DONATION FORM

- ☐ **YES! I would like to make this a RECURRING donation and support Libertas Christian School with my gift of:**
- ☐ \$25/month    ☐ \$50/month    ☐ \$100/month    ☐ \$\_\_\_\_/monthly    ☐ \$\_\_\_\_/annually
- ☐ **YES! I would like to make a ONE TIME Gift to support Libertas Christian School with my gift of :**
- ☐ \$250    ☐ \$500    ☐ \$1000    ☐ \$2000    ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_

First Name	Last Name	Company Name	
Address	City	State	Zip
Phone	Email		

Please mail this form along with gift to: Libertas Christian School 5181 64th Ave. Hudsonville, MI 49426

To make a donation via Credit Card or ACH please visit our website @ [LibertasChristianSchool.org](http://LibertasChristianSchool.org)/give or call Marissa, at 616-566-5791



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**Discipleship, fellowship and service:** Teachers mentor and disciple students and older students work with younger ones. Additionally, the Libertas House System provides fellowship, spiritual growth and service opportunities among students, both in-house and out in our surrounding community. Our wonderful Moms in Prayer meet every week to pray over the school and its families, as they offer their service to God's glory.

**Distinguished minds and virtues:** Libertas students are encouraged to distinguish themselves with their intellect, their eloquence, and exercise of Christian virtues and become less concerned with individual rights, expressions and outward appearance, while growing in awareness that it is with the inner man or woman that the Lord is most concerned. Students have the encouragement of this via Bible passages, such as I Peter 3:3-4 and Proverbs 4:23, which teach that the Lord looks at one's heart from which His life flows with "imperishable beauty . . . a quiet and gentle spirit".

**A culture of expectations vs. rules:** Expectations for conduct call our students to rise above daily challenges of life at Libertas as "expectations, not legalistic rules" guide them in conduct that honors the Lord and promotes unity in the school body between students and teachers.

**Short Accounts with one another:** Our faculty and administrators address issues right away. Libertas students are quick to ask each other, "Will you forgive me?" rather than simply say, "I'm sorry". Asking forgiveness calls one to a winsome humility of spirit and gives the offended party an opportunity to extend grace and mercy.

**Athletics that honor the Lord vs. self:** The Libertas athletic program trains students to honor the Lord with their actions and attitudes – regardless of wins or losses. We are not focused on winning trophies or championships, but with demonstrating the character of a Christian athlete based on I Timothy 4:8, which states, "while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. Our student athletes have a great time competing in light of these principles and exercising their God-given talents, "For Him" and not for personal accolades. "He who honors me, I will honor." 1 Samuel 2:30.

In conclusion, we know that Libertas has not "arrived" – we are still growing and developing in all of the above areas under the Lord's faithful leading, and we truly appreciate that being "Intentionally Classical, Vibrantly Christian" must go hand-in-hand! It is an exciting journey!



Students playing during recess



11th Graders reenacting Beowulf



Barnes and Noble Book Fair



Pre-K field trip to the Critter Barn



9th Graders reenacting the Odyssey



# LIBERTAS HOUSE SYSTEM

## ENCOURAGING THE LEGACY

In an effort to bring students together in healthy, uplifting competition, Libertas has developed a House System, in which students in grade 7th-12th are grouped into one of 6 houses, 3 male and 3 female. We will be highlighting one house per issue and sharing insights from their captain. The houses are as follow:



House Alethia  
Staff Advisor - Mrs. Brand  
House Captain - Ellie Brand  
House Vice-Captain - Olivia Sikkema



House Veritas  
Staff Advisor - Mr. Nemec  
House Captain - Wesley DeWind  
House Vice-Captain - Paul Brown, Hayden Wehrman



House Charis  
Staff Advisor - Mrs. Kaercher  
House Captain - Calista Robbins  
House Vice-Captain - Claire Kaercher



House Viribus  
Staff Advisor - Mr. Holt  
House Captain - Jason Steenwyk  
House Vice-Captain - Luke Rotman



House Kallos  
Staff Advisor - Mrs. Smith & Mrs. Schumaker  
House Captain - Ruthie Baribeau  
House Vice-Captain - Alayna VanderStel



House Virtus  
Staff Advisor - Mr. Davis  
House Captain - Jon Myers  
House Vice-Captain - Gabe Benjamin

### House Feature Charis "Beauty of Grace" Written by House Captain, Calista Robbins



In biblical Greek, Charis means "Beauty of Grace". Charis is often translated "grace", but when we looked at it together as a group, we found it also means "encouragement". As a house, we meet weekly for a time of devotion and discussion. In these meetings we also make plans for parties, service projects, and ways we can encourage our peers. This year we've adopted the third grade class, and were able to participate with them in their "Mini Olympics". Incoming 7th graders and new students are assigned to a house, and remain with that house through graduation, so there's a bit of an age range by design. This structure provides great opportunities for mentorship, in addition to developing close friendship. As we get together weekly, and discuss things going on in life, our hearts tend to grow closer throughout the year. This year, our house verse is 2 Peter 3:18, "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." The greatest part about being house captain this year has been the growth I've gotten out of it, personally. Throughout the processes of writing devotions, encouragements early Monday mornings, and being a positive presence consistently, I've learned a lot, and grown closer to God. In addition, I had a blast volunteering in the mini-olympics. We helped run each event, then joined the contestants in a feast. It was a great chance to laugh with each other, and to get to know the third graders.



House Charis assisting the 3rd grade class with their "Mini Olympics"



House games occur once per month during lunch hour.