It is Monday, September 9, 2019. Today marks the completion of the Galilean Christian Academy's first month of school. It does not seem real, but, as you know very well, time does not stand still for any of us. Life is but a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away (James 4:14). Over and over, I find myself sharing that invaluable life lesson with our students. I tell them if they are not careful, they are going to blink a couple times and find themselves graduated, filling out paperwork for college entrance exams, wishing they had of applied themselves in high school, learning everything they could have while they had the chance. Rose Kennedy said, “Life isn’t a matter of milestones, but of moments.” Amen. Carpe diem, dear readers. Carpe diem!

My name is David Lamb. I taught Bible at GCA last year, but I am now the principal. Who would have thought? It is amazing how much can change in such a very short duration of time. I am thankful that Coach Scott Jones (principal for 18 years) and Sister JoAnn Lehman (assistant principal) stuck around to help me. Coach Scott is now Athletic Director. Sister Jo … well, besides being Assistant Principal and my secretary, she does a little bit of everything. At the end of last school year, the three of us (and our teaching staff), began plotting a new course for the school. Although it is an amazing place, many young men and women have received a wonderful education here, we are determined to make GCA the most highly sought after private Christian academy in the state of Kentucky. It may take us a couple of years to get where we want to be, but the vision is clear, and we are determined. We’re grateful for the late Sandy Tucker who forged the path, laying the vision out for us years ago.

The first month has been full of great victories and, of course, some minor stepping stones. Change always brings about two diametrically opposed emotions. One is excitement and acceptance; the other is dread and resistance.
We have experienced a lot of the first and a little of the latter. Change can be difficult because it challenges our routines, bringing about inconvenience and sometimes painful self-exposure. It is easy to get in a rut. We are dynamiting the rut, elevating our expectations of both students, teachers, and parents. Roy T. Bennett said, “It is only after you’ve stepped outside your comfort zone that you begin to change, grow, and transform.” We want change, growth, and transformation at GCA, so we are stepping out of our comfort zone. We know it will not happen over night. The Galilean Christian Academy is not a speedboat; it is a battle, so it is going to take time to turn the vessel the direction we know it must go.

One of the most amazing and biggest changes of this school year is Brother Jerry Tucker, Merv, and Becky Martin’s decision to do away with the tuition. Yes! You read that right. NO TUITION. We have suggested that the parents/guardians donate at least $175 per month to help cover some of the school’s expenses as it costs about $700,000 a year to run the Academy. Some donate; some do not, so I guess it goes without saying, we are walking by faith and not by sight. Most of our students (including my four children) would never be able to afford a private school Christian education, but the Galilean is making it possible.

We have eight boarding school students this year: seven young men and one young lady from the Bahamian island area. They are coming from areas and backgrounds that do not offer the same opportunities afforded them here. Just last year, two of our boarding school boys earned college scholarships, one to Campbellsville University and the other to Asbury University. I expect this will be repeated many times in the pursuing years.

Speaking of Campbellsville University, we have a very special relationship with them. Our seniors are able to enter the GCA College Prep dual credit program allowing them to graduate high school with thirty college credit hours.

Along with all the state mandated classes, each student is required to take two years of Bible (four if they take our Honors course). They are required to attend a weekly chapel service, memorize Scripture, and go to our Friday afternoon devotion. We are not just trying to lift the academic side of GCA; we are trying to raise the spiritual standard, too. Just this past week, two or our fifth graders gave their hearts to the Lord after having a powerful Bible lesson and prayer time with their teacher. We are having a baptism in our October 1st chapel service. We are praying for revival to sweep over GCA.

I was pleased to see our playground renovation completed this week. After years of joyful and intense play by hundreds of little ones, the equipment had become dilapidated. No longer! It is now completely reconditioned and upgraded and the elementary students love it.

There are so many wonderful things happening right now I could not possibly chronicle them all, so I will now speak about the future.

Next year, we will be moving our entire elementary program to its own building (Lord's willing). This will free up several rooms in the middle/high building, allowing us to enroll as many as forty new students.

We hope to expand the boarding school aspect of the academy next year as well. If things go as planned, we will have both a boy’s and girl’s dorm. It will be expensive, but watching the trajectory of a young person’s life being altered forever will be worth it.

I thank God for bringing me to the Galilean. It has been a great honor to be a part of Galilean Home Ministry family and to serve the young men and women at GCA. I thank God for the opportunity to work for a man like Jerry Tucker, a man whose heart is committed to loving and reaching the least, the last, and the lost. By faith, we are going forward. We will continue making a private Christian education affordable to those that desire it. We will continue being the hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

God speed!

—David Lamb
Principal GCA

Brother David did a great job outlining the school and its operation. Now, it’s my turn to touch on a couple other activities here.

Quilt Auction #30 is right around the corner. It is our largest event of the year thanks to Sandy’s vision 30 years ago. A lot of beautiful quilts and craft items, not to mention the great fellowship of those who attend and the wonderful food served up by our volunteer fire department and our own cooks.

Right after all the auction cleaning we will start on probably our largest construction project in years, and that is to totally renovate the entire Blessing House which has needed to be done now for a long while.

All 20+ residents will move to the newly renovated and
enlarged Joshua House. We estimate this project to take two full months. Upon completion of the Blessing House the residents will move back to their “New” living area and the Joshua House will be used by our eight foreign students from the Bahamas and their dorm parents (also, from the Caribbean island).

We are blessed to have a good friend from Indianapolis, IN who is a building contractor and has done many jobs here over the years to spearhead and supervise construction. His plans are to stay here for two months. We also plan to have some “frolics” with our Amish and Mennonite neighbors. We hope and pray to be done and everyone moved back by Christmas. We are all excited about this huge endeavor as it has been a long time coming.

November’s newsletter will outline the auction activities. Again, our doors are open so drop in, pull up a chair and “set a spell” and we will reminisce about the “Good Ol’ Days”.

—Jerry, Dad, Papaw or Papa’ Oso

PS: We won’t turn down any volunteer help to swing a hammer or whatever your expertise may be.

PSS: My foot, after 6 weeks of misery, is 100% healed. Thanks to The Lord and 2 great doctors in Russell Springs.

WE WOULD BE HONORED to have someone come and share about our ministry with your church or organization.

Call 606.787.5120. Jerry is available on a limited schedule.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Thank you for blessing us while you shop!

To ensure Kroger can appropriately donate to Galilean Home Ministries, Inc. on your behalf, please register your Kroger Plus card and be sure to use our organization number “ut791”

WE ARE STILL SAVING SOUP UPCs & BOXTOPS!

Remember to send Campbell’s soup UPCs and General Mills Box Tops (not Betty Crocker points), and make sure the Box Tops are not expired. We can earn much needed equipment and cash for our school. Every little bit helps!

GET INVOLVED

Our volunteer program is a good way to dive in and be the hands and feet of Jesus in our ministry. Ladies 18 & older, if you feel you have the love and patience along with a good amount of flexibility to care for our family, we encourage you to apply. Volunteers are very important part of what we do. You get to care for our severely handicapped residents in the Blessing House, and other members of our family, as well as caring for our babies at the Angel House. We also need teacher’s aides for our academy, so there are plenty of areas in which to serve. We provide housing and basic needs, but do require at least a three-month commitment. Please prayerfully consider this and give our Volunteer Coordinator, Dawn Shultz, a call at 606.706.9457 or email her at dshultz@galileanhome.org for more info.

PLENTY OF WAYS TO PITCH IN...

The soup label (labels for education) program has ended but there are still plenty of ways to pitch in.

You can still collect General Mills box tops and send them our way. Also, you can collect Coke points and collect UPCs of select Tyson products and UPCs of Aunt Millie’s products.

These are all simple ways you can use products you already buy to help direct support to Galilean Home Ministries and the Galilean Christian Academy.

MOM’S BOOKS

You can get both of Sandy’s books for just $20. Faith, Hope and Room for One More and Precious in His Sight

FREE Shipping
CURRENT NEEDS LIST
✓ Ibuprofen ✓ Infant or Children’s Tylenol
✓ Toilet Bowl Cleaner ✓ Zip Lock Bags
✓ Stool Softener ✓ Size 5 Baby Diapers
✓ Adult Diapers – Size M (not the pull up type)
   (Orders over $50 on diapers.com get free shipping)
✓ Toddler Snacks ✓ Baby Food Veggies
✓ 13-Gallon & 33-Gallon Trash Bags
✓ Hand Sanitizer ✓ Disinfectant Wipes
✓ Toilet Paper ✓ Paper Towels
THANK YOU!
More on our needs list at www.galileanhome.org/get-involved

GALILEAN CHILDREN’S HOME
PO BOX 880
LIBERTY, KY 42539-0880

JUST A REMINDER: You can designate your United Way contribution to us. (Our agency # is 7003). You would need to fill out an application with your employer.

WOULD YOU CONSIDER DONATING MEAT? A large portion of our grocery budget is meat. We can get 175 lbs of chicken for $200 and 150 lbs of beef for $300. You can designate your tax-deductible donation to purchasing meat for the Galilean Home by calling Joey at 606.706.1735.

DON’T FORGET YOUR GHM SHIRT! Just $10 each, or 3 for $25 (throw in a little extra for shipping too) We have black, pink, blue, and gray

Do you need a place to stay? Call for reservations at the

HORSE & BUGGY COUNTRY INN
Nested deep in an Amish/Mennonite Horse & Buggy community.
NEW LOCATION: still less than a mile from Galilean Home Ministries
For reservations call: (606) 787-6612 • (606) 787-6110

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