



# THE LION'S ROAR

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## WHAT'S IN YOUR CLOSET?

*by Miss Tipton*

All of us are excited about summer vacation! Just like students, we teachers also enjoy getting some extra sleep, spending more time with friends and family, giving our brains a break, and even dressing a little more comfortably.

In seventh-grade Bible class this year, we all memorized Colossians 3:1-17 as we studied the process of sanctification in our Christian lives—that we should become more like Christ the longer we

know Him. In nearly every lesson, we learned that love for God and love for each other should motivate us and drive our actions to bring glory to God.

The apostle Paul provides a “laundry list” of all the deeds of the “old man” that we should “put off”—the old clothing we used to wear, before Christ so mercifully saved us. Those old garments—such as anger, greed, and filthy communication out of our mouths—are dreadfully ugly and often hurt the people around us. He challenges us to

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## CHANGING PATHS

*by Megan Robertson*

I loved ballet when I was little. I never took any classes other than the instructional DVD my parents got me when I was four. I was set on being a ballerina, and nobody could stop me, or so I thought. However, it wasn't anyone else who stopped me—I stopped myself.

I turned eight and found a love for other people. For a good long while I desired to be a doctor. I later discovered that that might not be the best idea because of my fear of blood. I went through wanting to be an actress, a singer/songwriter, a YouTuber—which I tried and failed at—and then a marine biologist. Marine biology stuck around a while after my trip to Sea World. I thought that I had finally found my dream job.

Well, then I discovered my love for art. This came very slowly to me, unlike the other dreams that were quite sudden. I only realized it when my mom mentioned it to me. “You should really think about taking graphic design courses in college,” she said. *Graphic Design?* I thought. I had no idea what that was. Drawing was something I did to pass the time—a hobby. I never thought about it as being a career. A few months later, I realized that art was something I *always* did. It was part of me. I actually took into consideration the possibilities of it all. I didn't have to be just a graphic designer. I could be an illustrator



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# MY LIFE FOR HIS GLORY

by Esther Oberman

Most people have some idea of what they would like to do when they grow up and start a career. However, there are some people who *don't* know what they want to be. I am sort of a mix between those. I want to have a wonderful husband who loves God but, then again, I'm not sure that's what I really want, or what God wants for my life.

When I grow up, I mainly just want to do whatever God has planned for me. But, I also have a goal of what I want to be—the Lord may call me to a ministry.

The word ministry can have several meanings. It mainly means putting God's Word into action. However, I think my

ministry is going to be helping out the needy and at the same time sharing a sort of Bible study. I could give them the Bible and as a bonus, they get a meal after it. Or maybe His will for me is to adopt a child into my godly home and be able to raise him with the Bible.

There are many opportunities out in the real world that people choose. And honestly, *any* occupation can be used for God's glory. Choose wisely and live for Him.



# CHANGES

by Amanda Meers

Change is something most people fear—something that we tend to dread in life. But change isn't always bad. In fact, it can be good for us. We enjoy the comfort of home and being familiar with our surroundings, but when that is taken from us and we are put in a new place, suddenly we are uncomfortable. For example, one of the biggest changes we can have is moving. We are put in a new place with new friends to start a new life. It can be terrifying but also a good thing—it just depends on how you look at it. You can get your mind set on the fact that life will be different and bad, or you can look at it like a new adventure and a new place to explore.

Another big change in your life is what friends you have. Some friends you grow apart from; some you grow closer to. As we get older, we change and our friends change as well. A lot of times they will choose a different path, and you go your separate ways. This can be a good or bad thing and you have to decide what that is. Were they a good influence on you? Did they help you down the right path? Are you happier now? These are things you must decide before you move on or turn around.

A definite change is your career. My current "career" is school—training, teaching, and preparing me for when I do get a job and start earning money for myself. My career for

about the next eight years is high school and college, which will help me determine what career I choose. For me, changing careers means growing up and maturing into adulthood, which is the most important part of my life. Even as an adult, we will most likely face changes in careers or maybe even spend time trying to find one for a while with no luck.

Changes can often be depressing, scary times, but just remember that change is all part of God's perfect plan for our life. He says in His Word, "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord." This is our reminder to stay strong in the Lord whether we view the changes as good or bad. We can find comfort in our Savior, knowing that He loves us through any change.



*But continue thou in the things  
which thou hast learned  
and hast been assured of,  
knowing of whom  
thou hast learned them.*

2 Timothy 3:14

# YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

by Erin Baggett

Every person in this world is unique. Not everyone is good at the same things. Some people might be better at sports, such as soccer or volleyball. Others might be more talented in music, like piano or violin. You might be good at something that maybe your friend isn't good at—or the other way around. But everyone is different. Everyone can use his or her talents in different ways.

There are many occupations in this world that could be used to make a difference in people's lives. Some examples would be a doctor or a nurse. Others might be a policeman or a fireman. I think I am most interested in what I would like to call a caring occupation, such as running an orphanage or maybe babysitting. I would love to start an orphanage when I'm older, in a different country—maybe a poor country. I would also be very interested in adopting. You may want to do something like this as well but don't know where to start, or don't have enough money. I would recommend visiting a shelter, or maybe even a children's hospital. You never know how happy you could make someone just by visiting them or even simply saying "hi!"

You might ask "where do I start?" An easy and sometimes fun thing to do would be to buy small gifts and give them to

an orphanage or a shelter. And if that is too difficult, you can always raise money and donate. There are a lot of ways you can reach out to others, and many can be fun.

What if you can't go to a different country? Or what if you can't adopt? Like I said before, not everyone is good at the same thing. If caring for, raising, and constantly watching a child is not your thing, then maybe God has other plans! Maybe you are better at talking and cooking. Well, there you have it! You could start a Bible club with a group of ladies or maybe kids from your neighborhood. You could read the Bible to them, witness to them, and pray with them. And, as a bonus, you could provide snacks to be served at your meeting.

God can use you in incredible ways that you could not even imagine. All you have to do is trust and follow Him. He has a specific plan just for you that only you can fulfill. God has given each of us unique gifts that we can use to make a difference in this world.



## "MOST LIKELY" PREDICTIONS

*Where will you be in 20 years? It is impossible to know that right now, but we had a lot of predictions made!*

*Here is this year's "Most Likely to Be" list. These students received multiple votes each.*

*We'll see you at your 2035 high school reunion to see which of these come true!*

*President of U.S.  
Principal of BJA  
Surgeon  
Governor  
Gardener  
Kindergarten teacher  
Coach  
Concert performer  
Missionary  
Math teacher  
Nobel prize winner  
Veterinarian  
Mother  
Olympic athlete  
NBA player  
Chemist  
Technology mogul  
Best-selling author  
Artist  
Journalist  
English teacher  
Evangelist/Pastor  
Accountant  
Music teacher  
Supreme Court judge*

Pearson Johnson, Kevin Kuhn  
Harris Henderson, Tim Brodsky  
Bradley Koons, Nazar Panosian  
Andrew Arrowood, Garrett Davis  
Danny Yacu, Katie Lilly  
Charity Carnell, Rebekah Ohler  
James McCarty, Blake Stephens  
Grace Hand, Katie Lilly, Andrea Villaverde  
Karis Martin, Tim Brodsky  
Kari Christmas  
Kevin Kuhn, Janine D'Souza  
Meghan Parimi  
Amanda Vinson, Amanda Meers  
Andrew Arrowood, James McCarty  
Travis Schmidt  
Mahler Nuñez, Garrett Davis  
Kevin Kuhn, Stevie Noel  
Janine D'Souza, Alexander Rouse  
Megan Robertson, Caleb Chapman, Alexander Rouse  
Janine D'Souza, Alexander Rouse  
Grace Hand  
Harris Henderson, Tim Brodsky, James McCarty  
Kevin Kuhn, Andrew Arrowood  
Katie Lilly, Anna Lynn Myers  
Isaac Chisholm, Janine D'Souza

# BEST MEMORIES FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Andrew Arrowood**—my friends

**Ethan “Mooshy” Atkins**—sitting at lunch with my friends

**Erin “Yager” Baggett**—1. Esther, Harris, Julia and me going down to Mrs. Litz’s room every day for lunch; 2. My friend Esther and I standing out in the hallway with Mr. Payne every day in between classes; 3. Esther and I screaming “Hi!” at Mr. Fremont and almost giving him a heart attack; 4. Julia and I waving at college guys during late stay and having a competition who could get the most waves—and being put in “time out” for it.

**Zach Borleis**—The Friday activities were always something that I looked forward to every week.

**Catherine “The Elf” Burris**—Shroomy fun with Ani and Kiki! a.k.a. Anika and Kirsten; Janet going insane in Williamsburg and we threatened to put her in the jail overnight.

**Charity “Charlie” Carnell**—the giant swing at the Wilds with Esther and Grace

**Abigail “Dabifail Tortillas” Casillas**—Williamsburg was pretty cool, especially kicking the squirrel. Also, playing sports (even if we weren’t good—we weren’t—and didn’t win) was one of best things the entire time.

**Melanie “Melalope” Cham**—being Sponge Bob; “It is Wednesday, my dudes.”

**Caleb Chapman**—it’s a little cliché, but meeting my friends again from elementary and then getting to know a bunch more people

**Isaac Chisholm**—We lost Luis during the fife and drum parade in Williamsburg.

**Kari Christmas**—This year I had an amazing homeroom and homeroom teacher. Our class gets along really well, and we all have fun at our homeroom activities. Being Patrick.

**Janine “Ja9” D’Souza**—Any moment with my friends, honestly. I can’t pick a favorite!

**Garrett Davis**—laughing with friends

**John “Dill Pickles” Dill**—Our (Mrs. Brown’s) homeroom activities and being in the booth.

**Gabby Donovan**—I thought last years’ excursion was fun, besides getting my sweatshirt ripped, and going to the Wilds was fun.

**Jeremy Edwards**—I loved the Wilds with the waterfall and the “hanging soccer” arena. I also liked the Williamsburg trip with Mr. Tompkins and our code names we got. I also enjoyed the outings we had with our homeroom with Mrs. Brown. I really loved that championship we won for soccer, and that dog pile was fun!

**Zac Ellis**—My best memories are the trips to Creation Museum, Williamsburg, and Raleigh.

**Joseph “Jophes” Grubb**—Dissecting in Mr. Foster’s class.

**Caroline Hamilton**—When we went to the Wilds and Williamsburg, I had fun with friends I never really was close to at school.

**Harris Henderson**—going to the nursing home, and conducting the music

**Pearson Johnson**—when we won the soccer championship

**Bradley “Bradalope Koonsy” Koons**—Handbells—it’s really fun, especially the snack shop; Life Science—dissections; Miss Tipton’s English class—it was all fun; lunch in 8th grade when Samuel Casillas couldn’t stop laughing and Mr. Payne was standing right behind him staring at him; running for “president” on the handbell trip to Raleigh.

**Kevin Kuhn**—I loved the Creation Museum trip and the Williamsburg trip a lot.

**Alex Kuzma**—spending time with friends

**Lucas “Juan” Laureano**—getting run over twice in the Wilds while bleeding

**Karis “Karrots” Martin**—watching Mia get free food in Williamsburg; learning more about God during classes (not just chapel and Bible)

**Alysha Matthews**—Williamsburg definitely. My group was in the elevator, I think we were on our way to breakfast, and Andrea and I were fighting over who should push the button and in our tiny tussle we hit the fire alarm! It was only a bell so no harm done. *(Editorial note: No harm done—except for Miss Tipton’s heart attack. And she wouldn’t describe it as a “tiny tussle.” ©)*

**Stevie Noel**—Wilds trip

**Esther Oberman**—When Erin Baggett and I would go stand next to Mr. Payne in the hallway before English class. Another memory is whenever Erin and I saw Mr. Fremont, we would always scream HI!!!! Erin, Julia, and I rolling down the hill in P.E. three times.

**Rebekah Ohler**—This year’s Williamsburg trip because when we got there my friend in my group needed her medicine because she was acting crazy.

**Caleb Olivero**—having my best friends encourage me to continue serving Christ

**Julia “Nepo” Ott**—When Erin and I were waving at college guys in late stay and Miss Charity told us not to wave to a certain guy who

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# MOST MEMORABLE MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASS

**Ethan “Mooshy” Atkins**—My favorite class from middle school is language with Mrs. LeBlanc. It was very memorable because of all the food and activities. Also, she was an awesome teacher.

**Erin “Yager” Baggett**—English 4th hour was a crazy class with a bunch of crazy, weird people in it.

**Zach Borleis**—My most memorable class was Mrs. Nelson because she was always nice and helpful when you needed help. And we won the Miracle Hill food drive so we got to have a half day!

**Catherine “The Elf” Burris**—I really liked history, but mostly because of Mr. Fremont’s horrible puns. Science was awesome. The astronomy project was fun, and the rock collection was just plain AWESOME! Plus, Mrs. Bishop is really nice.

**Charity “Charlie” Carnell**—History in 7th grade—I made a lot of friends in that class.

**Abigail “Dabifail Tortillas” Casillas**—P.E. was definitely the class I’ll remember the longest. First, Mrs. Brown is THE BEST!!!! Also, she sometimes gave us chocolate so that made that class cool. And, because of all the miles and running stuff we had to do that we all hated and tried to get out off.

**Melanie “Melalope” Cham**—P.E., because it’s P.E.

**Caleb Chapman**—My homeroom this year with Miss Bishop; last year I had a good bit of friends in my homeroom but this year I had a lot more in my homeroom.

**Isaac Chisholm**—U. S. History was the most memorable class because of all of the puns and because of the students in my class.

**Kari Christmas**—Mr. Foster’s class was very interesting. My class was all girls, and we were always behind the other classes because Abigail would take too long with the homework.

**Janine “Ja9” D’Souza**—My 7th grade language class, as there were only eight people in it, and my eighth grade P.E. class because of the interesting conversations we can have with each other—a nice way to say my entire class is crazy.

**Garret Davis**—math class, when Mrs. Litz hit me with a pen

**John “Dill Pickles” Dill**—A lot of interesting things happened in science class.

**Gabby Donovan**—Mr. Foster’s class—I think every day I would have to stay after class because I talked so much. I had never had an all-girls class before—it was very interesting. I learned that science is actually interesting if you listen and do your homework.

**Jeremy Edwards**—Probably P.E., because we would do fun stuff like football or softball. Mrs. Brown loved doing stuff with both classes.

**Caroline Hamilton**—Science and P.E.—in science Samuel did funny things and made us laugh. In P.E. we had food.

**Grace Hand**—Pre-Algebra—I learned a lot and had fun in that class.

**Harris Henderson**—Science. I think we had an amazing class. Although we got in trouble (some more than others), we still learned. (Again, some more than others.)

**Pearson Johnson**—Mr. Fremont’s puns in U.S. History

**Bradley “Bradalope Koonsy” Koons**—Handbells, because Miss T is an awesome teacher and everybody in the class is fun.

**Karis “Karrots” Martin**—Mrs. Brown’s Instabrowns—we got together as a homeroom and had lots of fun.

**Alysha Matthews**—History class. No more explanation needed.

**Molly “Pickles” Hotchkin**—8-3 was the best homeroom

**Kayleigh Payne**—Probably Mrs. Hand’s class or Mrs. Brown’s were my most memorable. Mrs. Hand let us have a week when we brought food from different countries. Also some of the other students in my class are more outgoing and make all of us laugh. Another favorite class of mine is Mrs. Brown’s homeroom. We are able to enjoy fun class parties outside of school.

**Emily “Wmily” Richardson**—Mr. Foster’s because of cutting up worms, frogs, and rats

**Megan Robertson**—Handbells: Melanie Cham. I shouldn’t have to go into that further.

**Lauren Russ**—My most memorable class in middle school has been PE class 4th hour this year. I’ve had a lot of fun with my friends in that class, and I will definitely remember all the crazy stuff we did.

**Jonathan Scroggins**—probably math, because of the different activities that we get to do there

**Asher Smith**—history—the little red hen

**Matt Spencer**—seventh grade history

**Blake Stephens**—pre-algebra with Mrs. Litz—It was a pretty easy class that she made very enjoyable.

**Jonathan “Afro Man” Thomas**—history, because of the puns

**Mia Walker**—Miss Tipton’s seventh grade English class. We basically goofed off half the time but still got everything done because we were just that good and Miss T is just that good too.

**Luis “Does This Really Matter” Wolfe**—Language—lots of food days.

**Catherine Woods**—P.E. because it’s the best class ever.







# Autographs





# Class of 2020



# EIGHTH GRADE WILLS

**Andrew Arrowood**—I will my captain position as striker on the soccer team to Adam Darst.

**Erin “Yager” Baggett**—I will my role of standing beside Mr. Payne between classes to Kirsten Hansen.

**Zach Borleis**—I will my locker to Matthew Holmes.

**Catherine “The Elf” Burris**—I will to Anika Holley my self-given titles of MS elf-queen, awesome weirdo in the extreme, and total Tolkien nerd. Ani, you are awesome!

**Abigail “Dabifail Tortillas” Casillas**—I bestow my position on the basketball team to Ashlyn Schmidt next year. (Hopefully they win a little more.)

**Janine “Jag” D’Souza**—The time has come...I will my responsibility of screaming to people on their birthdays to Clark Moyer. But take some friends because, alas, no one is as loud as me.

**Jeremy Edwards**—I will “the booth” to Cotter Wood.

**Zac Ellis**—I will the booth to the seventh graders.

**Harris Henderson**—I will Adam Darst my position as a class officer in Mrs. Hand’s homeroom.

**Molly “Pickles” Hotchkin**—I will Mrs. Yuri Brown to Emmie and Isabella. Please take care of her.

**Bradley “Bradalope Koonsy” Koons**—I will my the highest bell position and my locker to Jonathan Daulton.

**Lucas “Juan” Laureano**—For whomever gets my locker: You agree that you will pay for all products you purchase through the Services, and that I may charge your payment method for any products purchased and for any additional amounts (including any taxes and late fees, as applicable) that may be accrued by or in connection with your Account. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF ALL FEES AND FOR PROVIDING A VALID PAYMENT METHOD FOR PAYMENT OF ALL FEES. For billing details, contact me at 1-800-NOT-YOURS.

**Mahler “The Baller” Nuñez**—To the seventh grader who inherits my locker, I will all my treasures.

**Karis “Karrots” Martin**—Ellie Richmond can have everything I had in middle school.

**Alysha Matthews**—To all the seventh graders, I will the following advice: When you’re in Mr. Fremont’s class, ask lots of questions. Even if they’re completely stupid and irrational, ask them anyway.

**Anna Lynn Myers**—I will that none of the 7th graders have my locker.

**Stevie Noel**—To any lucky 7<sup>th</sup> graders, I will first hour P.E.—it’s awesome.

**Tristen Rainey**—To all the 7th graders I will nothin’ but hard homework in 8th grade.

**Emily “Wmily” Richardson**—I will Sam Hill my locker so he can be around all the girls. You’re welcome, Sam.

**Megan Robertson**—I will my locker to Ellie, even though it’s a top locker...

**Travis “Trav” Schmidt**—I will my locker to Adam Darst.

**Jonathan Scroggins**—I will my trashy locker to Bryson Schell.

**Andrea “Greenville” Villaverde**—I will my crazy personality to K.C. Henderson.

**Mia Walker**—I will my position in handbell choir to Jonathan Daulton to drive Miss Tipton crazy. (I made my will before Bradley made his will.)

**Nick Welling**—I will my high ranking position in carpet ball to Andrew McCann.

**Luis “Does This Really Matter?” Wolfe**—I do not care who gets my locker as long as he treats it well.



## LANGUAGE CLASS *by Janine D’Souza*

Hola! Bonjour! Guten Tag! If you didn’t get the message, first of all, hello. Second of all, consider taking language class next year!

Taught by Mrs. Leblanc, language is a great opportunity to be introduced to other languages and cultures. This year Language 8 was mostly an online course, but next year the class will combine seventh and eighth graders. Unfortunately, if you took Language 7 this year, you can’t take it again next year, but if you wanted to take language this year but weren’t able to, this is your chance!

In middle school language class you take five languages: classical languages (Greek and Latin) first semester and modern language

(French, German, and Spanish) second semester.

As someone who’s taken language, I can say that everything you learn will be useful, whether it be in conversation, learning vocabulary for big tests, or taking a language in high school. In addition, you have several food days and days in which you’ll learn about the culture of the language’s country of origin, which is a fun and educational experience.

So if you want to learn about our world, its cultures, and its languages, then taking language is a great idea. Until then, adios! Au revoir! Auf wiedersehen!





# WHEN WE WERE YOUNG

*Our best memories from elementary school...*

**Andrew Arrowood**—my 6th grade year, especially the tournaments

**Erin “Yager” Baggett**—Coming to a whole new school in 6th grade and being welcomed into an awesome, crazy group of friends; Miss White, a history teacher, was my favorite. She kept my interest and made my least favorite subject my favorite subject (of that year).

**Zach Borleis**—Miss Parenti was probably my favorite teacher because we always did fun activities.

**Catherine “The Elf” Burris**—getting free marbles from Mrs. Thomas Sr. because she was retiring; I loved both Mrs. Thomases, especially Jr. (Even though she said she was 100-something years old, they still called her Jr.)

**Abigail “Dabifail Tortillas” Casillas**—Doing the stock exchange project in Mr. LeBlanc’s class in 5th grade. Mrs. Leatherwood, because she was always super nice to us, and she gave us candy.

**Kari Christmas**—My most vivid elementary memory was those crackers they used to give you before recess. Everyone always wanted the little rectangle ones until they stopped bringing them and we were left with the square crackers.

**Janine “Jag” D’Souza**—2nd semester of sixth grade was probably the most fun I had in elementary school (this feels like a century ago—wowza), but I distinctly remember helping out at the fundraiser for Miss White as a “waitress” and spilling Mr. Barbrow’s drink next to his table. Oops.

**Garrett Davis**—hiding in the trees on the hill on upper field

**Gabby Donovan**—Mrs. Moore was my favorite teacher because she made class really fun and was really nice. Also Mrs. Leatherwood was really funny and also made class fun.

**Jeremy Edwards**—I really remember soccer at recess. I was the goalie or the defender during those games. I loved Mr. Muller, because he was always happy and took care of his class.

**Joseph “Jophes” Grubb**—Mrs. Thomas (4th grade) was the best teacher I had—she was nice and funny, and she was awesome.

**Caroline Hamilton**—Doing CSO—standing in the rain or cold helping people out of their cars. My favorite teachers were Mrs. Leatherwood (she cared about us and she was very understanding) and Dr. White (even though she came to school every day with really bad migraines, she still smiled and did fun things with us).

**Harris Henderson**—My favorite teacher was Mrs. Thomas. She helped me understand what I didn’t already.

**Kevin Kuhn**—I loved recess. My favorite teacher was Mr. Leblanc—I had him for math in 5th and 6th grade; he has the best math links.

**Alysha Matthews**—My most vivid memory in elementary school....probably my first day at Bob Jones, walking into the classroom and realizing that I was the only black girl in there. Oddly enough, it made me feel powerful.

**Esther Oberman**—My most vivid memory from elementary school was going into 6th grade (5th grade I had Mr. LeBlanc for my homeroom) and we got the results of who was my teacher and it said “Mr. LeBlanc.” I was sort of excited and sort of devastated. I liked him but he wasn’t the type of teacher I wanted again. But needless to say I enjoyed having him as my fifth and sixth teacher.

**Rebekah Ohler**—During reading time we hid under the table and used highlighters to color the ends of my hair. My favorite teacher was Mrs. Sweeting—she made lessons fun but easy to remember.

**Kayleigh Payne**—My favorite teachers were Mrs. Barley and Mrs. Thomas Jr. They gave out candy or rewards, which made school work more fun. Mrs. Barley had a Christmas party with treats and arts and crafts. She let us choose a partner to study with anywhere.

**Tristen Rainey**—PI DAY! Mr. LeBlanc’s reading contest and games

**Emily “Wmily” Richardson**—going to the principal’s office for calling Carter short; my favorite teacher was Mrs. Frank—she made us treats when we all did good on our spelling tests.

**Megan Robertson**—My favorite teacher was my K5 teacher Mrs. O. My most vivid memory was hating sixth grade. It was bad.

**Jonathan Scroggins**—Mrs. Leatherwood

**Asher Smith**—Miss White is the only teacher I remember.

**Matt Spencer**—Cooking. Mrs. Harrison. She was cool.

**Blake Stephens**—I enjoyed playing soccer at recess. The fifth grade kickball tournament was fun even though my class lost. Raising money for Miss White’s migraines, running laps for her as a fundraiser. She was my favorite teacher—she was still so nice and interesting to listen to even when she had migraines all the time.

**Tyler Thompson**—going to the nurse’s clinic

**Amanda Vinson**—Mr. LeBlanc’s homeroom in 5th grade was fun. I prefer first grade where the hardest thing in school was deciding if we wanted a pony or Barbie lunch box much better though.

**Mia Walker**—Mrs. Thomas—suckers for signed assignment sheets

**Luis “Does This Really Matter” Wolfe**—When I got hit in the face with a soccer ball. My favorite teacher was Mrs. Frank.

**Catherine Woods**—Miss Parenti—she gave us rewards.

**Danny Yacu**—I remember having a test where every single answer was A except the second to last one.



# HOW EMBARRASSING! *Our most embarrassing moments...*

**Zach Borleis**—when Janine sings (yells) happy birthday to you in the lunchroom

**Abby Bullard**—falling down the stairs in front of the guy I liked

**Charity “Charlie” Carnell**—either ripping my shirt during late stay, having a note that I passed being read out loud, or coming to school with clashing clothes

**Abigail “Dabifail Tortillas” Casillas**—Well, there’s MANY, MANY, MANY, but one really embarrassing thing was asking in music apprec why Charles Ives was an American composer if he wrote a song about New England. The whole class laughed at me (I laughed too), and somehow even Mr. Foster heard about it.

**Janine “Jag” D’Souza**—Oh, goodness this a hard question...the time I ironically climbed on top of a trash can and then fell in. It was more of a hurt to my back than to my dignity though, to be honest.

**Garrett Davis**—One morning in science class, somehow I got silver paint all over my jacket.

**Joseph “Jophes” Grubb**—getting caught with no shoes in history class in 7th grade

**Caroline Hamilton**—in P.E. when Bradley ran into me and I fell and ripped my dress

**Harris Henderson**—walking straight into the lockers while trying to talk to a girl (don’t try)

**Pearson Johnson**—when I knew no one

**Bradley “Bradalope Koonsy” Koons**—backing up into Caroline and tripping her

**Lucas “Juan” Laureano**—writing this down

**Karis “Karrots” Martin**—In seventh grade science, I was about to sit down in my chair, when Garret Davis pulled the chair out from under me and I fell to the ground. It was more embarrassing for Garret though, because he did not mean to.

**Alysha Matthews**—Surprisingly, I have avoided having embarrassing moments. I’m not sure how long that will last though.

**Stevie Noel**—going to the wrong class hour

**Caleb Olivero**—My whole 2 years in middle school were just an embarrassment.

**Kayleigh Payne**—The pictures in the year book video—now that I look back at them, I look very different.

**Tristen Rainey**—spilling my applesauce all over my black pants

**Megan Robertson**—Being super obsessive about Percy Jackson and screaming and fangirling—it was horrible—don’t ever be like that.

**Matt Spencer**—giving a speech

**Jonathan “Afro Man” Thomas**—making a loud nose in chapel

**Tyler Thompson**—being wrong in front of math class

**Luis “Does This Really Matter” Wolfe**—when my voice cracked like five times as I read the Bible verse during chapel

**Catherine Woods**—the pictures Mr. Foster takes

**Danny Yacu**—learning how to dance in Williamsburg



## A FAREWELL

*From Mr. Payne to all the eighth graders*

Your two years here have reached their end at last.  
For us, it seems they passed by much too fast.  
We know that you may think, “No, that’s not true,”  
For you recall the trials you went through.

The homework, projects, tests for which you crammed,  
The times you had to rush and lockers jammed.  
There were good grades, while others you regret.  
There were great days, and days you should forget.

You had some, made some new, and lost some friends,  
And felt the hurt that comes when friendship ends.  
Then fitness runs, spilled food, and rooms so cold,  
Add braces, zits, bad hair—it all got old.

You got turned in for things you did not do;  
It seemed that we were out to get just you.  
Yet, hopefully, your days weren’t all that bad.  
How many opportunities you had!

You learned; you grew, developed and matured—  
In spite of all the crises you endured.  
For us, ’twas sorrow mingled with delight  
To watch you grow up almost overnight.

You came as yet a child; you leave a teen,  
And we saw many changes in between.  
And for each change wherein we played a part,  
You know that change in some way touched each heart.

At times it hurt: we grieved and felt your pain,  
But there were other times we count as gain.  
We liked to watch, to listen and be near,  
To share your thoughts, your smiles, your laughs, your cheer.

Now you move on—progress to other things.  
There’s joy, but, too, the sorrow parting brings.  
You know you have our prayers; they will not rest.  
You also have our hopes for all God’s best.

Just what the future holds, no man can tell,  
But go with God. We’ll miss you all, farewell.



# SHOULD YOU JOIN THE CHOIR? *by Taylor Moreno*

When you're alone, do you find yourself humming or singing? Do you frequently have a tune stuck in your head? Do you enjoy making friends and learning together? If you answered "yes," then choir could be a great choice for you.

Psalm 95:1 states, "O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation." God urges us to praise Him with the instruments that He has given us, especially our voices. In choir, you have the opportunity to praise God through songs such as "Arise, My Soul, Arise" or "Lord of the Small." Each year Mrs. Nelson has a sacred piece that has been given to us by Miss Tipton. There are also more humorous songs that involve acting. If you saw the high school choir's awesome performance of "Fruit Cake" at Christmas, you know that we sing a lot of fun pieces. We also sing a variety of folk and art songs.

Choir members prepare Christmas and spring concerts, and each spring, they travel to the SCMEA choir competition in Columbia, where they perform two or three songs and sightread one short piece. After the competition the choir goes to a local mall food court for dinner. This year, the hard work of both choirs was rewarded with a superior rating and two big trophies for the school.

Next year, choir will meet daily in conjunction with lunch. Each group will have about 18 minutes to eat lunch and 15 minutes to sing. Hopefully, singing great music with a lot of friends will be an energizing change of pace in the middle of the day! Mrs. Nelson makes practice fun, but you have to try your best.

As you plan next year's schedule, consider adding your joyful voice to the middle school choir!



# AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE! *by Alexander Rouse*

As anyone who has been in band can tell you, middle school band is an...interesting experience. But don't get me wrong—middle school band is an awesome experience! Doing band in middle school is really fun, and it helps build teamwork. Studies show that those who play a musical instrument are far more likely to succeed academically and socially. Learning how to play notes that sound harmonically correct can help build thinking skills and mental reflexes, and learning how to work with others and play an instrument in public can help one learn to be more comfortable in public.

Another pro to being in middle school band—at least at our school—is having a GREAT teacher. While Mr. Woods can sometimes seem rather strict, all he wants for us is for us to succeed and learn how to be good musicians. So, all in all, I

personally think that if any of you are considering it at all, you should definitely join band. (Though I may be just a little bit biased.) And as another incentive, playing music is one of the best ways to serve the Lord. As Psalm 150:3-6 commands, "Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!"

Even if you have never played a band instrument before, you have the opportunity to join next year! All you have to do is also sign up for lessons in the instrument you choose to play in the band and be faithful in practicing each week. See Mr. Woods for suggestions on a good instrument for you to begin next fall!



# RINGING IN THE SUMMER *by Catherine Burris*

As we near the end of the school year, we encounter the typical period of clumped-together concerts. It is a fun—and chaotic—time for many of us, both performers and audience.

For the handbell choirs, it can be especially chaotic. Pack up all the equipment, drag it to the auditorium, set up, perform, then drag everything back to the Brown building. It's all part of the fun.

This year, the theme of our spring concert is joy. (Coincidence? I think not.) So, obviously, most of the songs we are playing have a

rather bright, cheery feel (and lots of staccato). Miss Tipton also seems to be favoring movie soundtracks this spring. Go figure.

For you seventh graders who wish you had joined handbells last year, hope is not lost! There are usually a few openings from students leaving the choir. Rising ninth graders—sorry. It's not a very good idea to join the group in high school if you have never played handbells before. You can still come to the concerts, though, and I encourage everyone to. It's not every day you get to see people making music by swinging bells around, after all!



# PRAISES WITH THE STRINGS

What is the difference between band and orchestra? String players often joke that brass players make noise but string players make music. Aside from the joking, though, both groups offer a chance to develop skills and make beautiful sounds for the Lord. The middle school orchestra helps students learn about blending sounds with other players, challenging techniques with bow and strings, and expanding their knowledge of music. They have point competitions throughout the year as well, to keep them motivated to practice and to perform outside of class. This year, the group

developed many new skills and a unified sound, which was abundantly evident in the final concert.

Psalm 144:9 says, "I will sing a new song unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto thee." Our instruments don't have ten strings now, but they have four each that can all work together to give praise to the Lord. Consider joining the orchestra and learning more about praising God in this way.



**What's in Your Closet?** (continued from [page 1](#))

“put on the new man”—replace those sinful garments with new clothing that can beautifully bless those around us. These lovely new garments include mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience—brightly colored garments that bring joy to all around us.

And then Paul confronts us with the most difficult of all garments to put on and yet the most beautiful and satisfying one to wear. “And above all these,” he says, “*Put on love.*” When we’re wearing love, the beauty of Christ can shine through us to the world around us.

What’s in *your* closet? Do you have some old garments still hanging around? It’s hard to make room for new garments if

your closet is full of old clothes! Honestly, sometimes it’s really hard to let go of those old clothes, because they’re so *comfortable*. It’s so *easy* to get angry with the people who love us. It just feels *good* to lash out with our tongues and say things that hurt others. But no matter how comfortable those old clothes may seem to us, they’re incredibly ugly to other people. Let’s get rid of them!

Ask God to give you some new clothes this summer—begin each day by communing with Him and asking Him to help you “get dressed” like a child of God. Read and *memorize* His Word. Pray. Then get dressed in your *new* clothes—especially *love*!

**Changing Paths** (continued from [page 1](#))

or animator. If all I did was draw book characters in my spare time, why not get paid for it?

Why did I show you the migration of my career choices? Everything I had wanted to do involved my interacting with people at some point. I’m only a teenager so maybe there will be more I want to be. But having my desires and interests change over time isn’t a bad thing. It’s part of growing up. The Lord has designed a specific job for only you to handle. It may be being a scientist, a writer, a

missionary, or a policeman to die on the job and bring a community together.

The job God has assigned you could be for the good of you or of someone else. Being a marine biologist could help others see the one holy Creator of the universe, or an illustrator can bring people to Christ through a design. Based on your path ordered by God, He will change and shape you, to bring honor and glory to Him.

**Best Middle School Memories** (continued from [page 4](#))

knew her, and we yelled, “Hey, do you know Miss Charity?!” That’s when we got the “time out” from Miss Charity.

**Kayleigh Payne**—My favorite memory from the middle school was being able to eat snacks during Miss Tipton’s English class. We were able to eat part of our lunches during fourth hour English so that we wouldn’t be distracted by our hunger during her class!

**Tristen Rainey**—Language 7 and 8, P.E., friends, Mr. Foster, THE FOSTEROTOPS, touching a snake

**Emily “Wmily” Richardson**—Amanda laughing so hard that water came out of her nose

**Megan Ring**—In Williamsburg, there was a bridge with big notches where you could hide. We hid in them and scared another group.

**Megan Robertson**—being homeroom officer in Mr. Norton’s class last year, and creating one of my favorite squads ever this year

**Alexander Rouse**—the Williamsburg trip

**Travis “Trav” Schmidt**—soccer and basketball with my friends

**Blake Stephens**—Creation Museum and the Cincinnati Museum, and riding the zip line. Williamsburg trip walking through town and looking at what colonial times use to be like. Staying in a hotel room with friends, and bringing lots of food on the bus.

**Jonathan “Afro Man” Thomas**—friends

**Amanda Vinson**—The Wild’s trip. Walking around Williamsburg with Mrs. Litz and our group and walking out with little inside jokes. Our homeroom parties were always really fun.

**Luis “Does This Really Matter” Wolfe**—When I got lost at Williamsburg, my friends were there when I got back.

**Catherine Woods**—I liked being with all my friends and sharing good times. Mrs. Brown is the bomb.

**THE LION'S ROAR STAFF**

CATHERINE BURRIS  
JANINE D'SOUZA  
TAYLOR MORENO  
ALEXANDER ROUSE  
MRS. CHRISTINE HAND  
MRS. MARTY NELSON  
MISS NANCY TIPTON