



# Salt and Light

Fall 2023

Bleckley Christian Learning Center Newsletter

## Update on BCLC

We are well into our eighth school year, and we are pleased to share this BCLC update. Since our last newsletter, here are some of the highlights of a very busy year.

- Combined Fall and Spring semester 406 students attended Bible Classes (Spring 143 and Fall 263)
- Students and advisors attended a Spring Field Trip where the movie "Selfie Dad" was shown and a Fall Field Trip where "The Hill" was shown.
- Our seventh annual BCLC Dale Jones Memorial Scholarship was awarded.
- BCLC hosted a Prayer Walk for Our Schools with over 500 attending.
- 2023 New School Year – 263 Students enrolled in Fall BCLC Classes
- Fall Classes for 2023 - 6 Middle School classes: 2 - 8th grade, 2 - 7th grade & 2 - 6th grade, 1 High School class and 11 classes of 5th grade students.
- BCLC students were involved with Operation Christmas Child and Promise of Hope for Men Pantry Drive projects.
- BCLC hosted a Thanksgiving Community Hymn Sing with our Middle School Bible Class students being involved.

God has truly blessed this ministry. Thank you for your continued prayers for the BCLC. From the Board of Directors, Teachers and Staff, we wish you a very Merry Christmas.

## Year-End Support

With 2023 ending, the Officers, Directors, Staff, Teachers and Students of the Bleckley Christian Learning Center would like to say thank you for your support in 2023. Local churches and individuals have lifted prayers and supported us financially. With the additional classes, it now takes \$326 per school day to fund the Bleckley Christian Learning Center. Your year-end support is crucial as we continue to offer Hope found in God's Word to our Bible Class Students. If you would like to make a year-end contribution to the Bleckley Christian Learning Center, please make the check payable to BCLC and mail it to:

**Bleckley Christian Learning Center**  
**149 Duskin Drive**  
**Cochran GA 31014**

Also, we recently added the option of allowing our Partners the ease of supporting this ministry by using the Venmo App. Here is BCLC's Venmo's username:

@bleckleychristianlearningctr

**All contributions are tax-deductible and must be postmarked by December 31, 2023.**

**"Our Mission is to prepare students for God's call on their lives by providing Biblical instruction."**

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### BCLC Leadership Team

\*Don Giles - President

\*Dr. Andrea Williams - Vice President

\*Jed Evans - Secretary/Treasurer

### Directors

\*Anna Bagglely

\*Kari Coody

\*Dr. Lydia Daniels

\*Becky Kirkpatrick

\*Kemper Meadows

\*Chuncey A. Phillips

\*Pastor Jay Thornton

\*Jerri Tuck

### Teachers

\*Sarah Kitchens - 6th

Grade MS

\*Jamie Davis - 7 & 8th Grade MS

\*Sarah Kitchens - MS Liaison and Para-pro

\*Kelly Hitchcock - High School & 5th Grade, ES Liaison

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## Meet the BCLC Teachers and Staff

The Bleckley Christian Learning Center is blessed to have qualified and dedicated teachers and staff for the 2023 -2024 year.



*Left to right*

***Sarah Kitchens, 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and Middle School Paraprofessional and Liaison; Jamie Davis, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade; Kelly Hitchcock, High School and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Teacher and Elementary School Liaison and Kristy Strickland 6<sup>th</sup> grade Paraprofessional; not pictured, June Wright, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Paraprofessional currently on medical leave.***

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## BCLC Sponsors Prayer Walk for Schools

On July 30<sup>st</sup> the BCLC once again sponsored the Annual Prayer Walk for our Schools at the BCMS Gym. An estimated crowd of 500+ attended this student-led opening time of prayer. For the third year in a row, we held a special time of prayer for our teachers and staff. Afterwards, attendees dispersed to individual schools to walk the halls in prayer.



**Assembled to Pray**

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## BCLC School Field Trips 2023

One event all students look forward to is a Field Trip. Both Fall and Spring Semesters our BCLC students and chaperones travelled downtown to the FBC Summit for a movie and were also treated to a pizza lunch and ice cream before returning to school. In the Spring we watched the movie “Selfie Dad” and in the fall “The Hill.” Special thanks to FBC Cochran and Bleckley County School Administration for allowing this to happen.



**Thursday Group Fall Field Trip**



**Friday Group Fall Field Trip**



## Operation Christmas Child

Our Middle School students teamed up with Bethany Baptist Church during their annual Operation Christmas Child Drive. They helped build 400 shoe boxes to send to children in other countries during Christmas. What a blessing!



**Putting Boxes Together**



**Having Fun Building Boxes**

## BCLC T-Shirts

All students attending BCLC classes received a t-shirt with a new design to be a witnessing tool. Our students like this year's purple and gold shirts and describe them as "really cool." The front of the t-shirt has the BCLC logo, and the back has Matthew 5:13-15 where we are called to be Salt and Light with a Lighthouse shining in all directions.



## Seventh Annual Dale Jones Memorial Scholarship

Machaelah Steverson, a recent graduate of Bleckley County High School received the Bleckley Christian Learning Center Dale Jones Memorial Scholarship. This is a \$500 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior who has been enrolled in one of our Bible classes. Machaelah is presently attending Georgia Southern University.



**Bleckley Christian Learning Center  
2023 Dale Jones Memorial Scholarship**



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## *Missionary speaks to our classes*

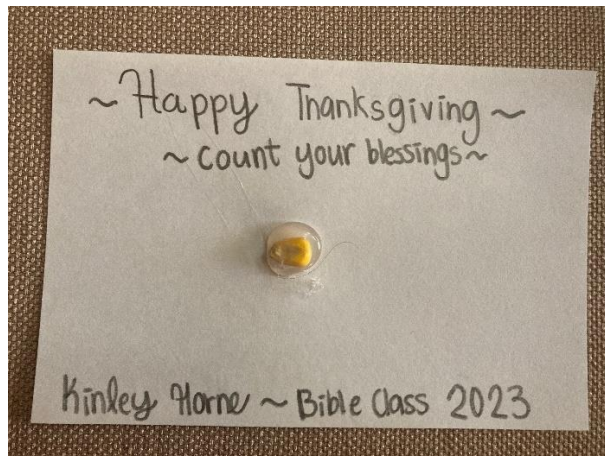
Jamie Work, an International Missionary, spoke to our classes in the Fall Semester. He and his wife served in the Middle East until 2019. Wearing traditional clothing and sharing what missionaries are called to do proved to be an exciting and interesting day for our classes.



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## *BCLC Hosts Thanksgiving Community Hymn Sing*

For the first time since the Pandemic of 2020 a Community Thanksgiving Service was held in Cochran. BCLC sponsored this service highlighting the history of Thanksgiving and the meaning behind some of our great Hymns of Thanks. BCLC Middle School students developed a Count Your Blessing Handout for the event.



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## *How You Can Become Involved*

**Prayer cover:** Scripture says our God can do more than we could ever ask or think, and we need you to pray for us, our teachers, students and everyone involved in this ministry.

**Presentation at your church or club:** There are still a lot of people who are not aware of this ministry in Bleckley County. We also cherish and are encouraged when other communities invite us to share,

**Fun Day:** Occasionally we have what we call "Fun Day" for our classes. If a church, Sunday school class or an individual would like to supply refreshments for our classes for one of these days, please let us know.



## **“Scenes from the Center”**



***Middle School students walking to Bethany***



***5<sup>th</sup> Grade students riding the bus***



***BCLC reads at the BRM***



***Pizza Line at the Field Trip***



***Praying for our Teachers***



***BCLC Sponsored Breakfast***



***Middle School Open House***





***Our High School Class***



***Listening to our Teacher***



***Playing 9 Square on the Field Trip***



***Sharing with our Bible Class***



***Waiting for Ice Cream***



***Building Christmas Boxes***



***Operation Christmas Child***

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Bleckley Christian Learning Center***

***Contact us:  
bleckleychristianlearning@gmail.com***