



Greetings Neighborhood Families,

September 2020

After our delayed 'kickoff' to our 2020-21 school year, Neighborhood is underway on our journey together, albeit for a bit longer through distance learning. We're praying that your family would be abundantly blessed and the Lord glorified in all that we do throughout this year. Our prayer for you from Psalm 115:14 is, ***"May the Lord cause you to flourish, both you and your children."***

Less than a year ago none of us could have imagined the challenges that we would be facing with this pandemic in our world. Yet we know ***"...that in all things he is working for the good of those who love him and are called according to his purpose."*** (Romans 8:28) In other words, the Lord delights to bring forth good from bad or *'beauty from ashes.'* As we have seemingly had everything in our world shaken, many of God's people have used this time to reflect and have reprioritized their lives and faith. Parents are spending more time with their children and becoming more involved in their lives and education. With far fewer distractions before us, individuals and families have grown closer together having more compassion and understanding of others in their hardships. For that we give thanks.

We can empathize with all the challenges that many families face today financially, logistically and physically. We are greatly appreciative of the sacrifices that school families are making by investing in their children's future through receiving a Christian education at Neighborhood. We consider it a privilege and honor to educate the children the Lord has brought to us, and we do not take that trust and responsibility lightly. In fact, we see in this fearful time of chaos and unrest an opportunity to have students flourish in receiving a solid Christ-centered education. After all, how else can our children learn that they have been created by Almighty God who loves them deeply and has wonderfully made them with a plan and purpose for their lives. There can be excitement about their future and building on that foundation of truth that comes through the Lord's wisdom and knowledge.

Scripture records in Mark 10:13-16 that many parents were bringing their children to Jesus so that the Lord would lay his hands on each one and bless them. As the crowds of children coming to Jesus grew, his disciples were trying to drive the little ones away because they thought their Lord had too many 'important' things to do to rather than spending time being distracted with kids. The Bible goes on to say that Jesus became indignant with his disciples and told them not to keep the children from coming to him because the *'Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.'* In other words, children are a vital priority to God and he loves each one immensely. In a sense, it's an extension of what we at Neighborhood also want to accomplish in our Christ-centered education as we pour out our lives and efforts into blessing God's children.

Our Neighborhood teachers and staff are really excited about what will be occurring through this work and ministry. We are praying to see the influence of our small school grow in its mission of educating students for life. Occasionally people ask us or even wonder about private Christian school salaries (*our salaries are well under 50% of a public educator*), and also if we ever have to make sacrifices to work here. We don't like to talk much about the things that each of us do or how much we give in order to make Neighborhood operate, but there are times that we believe the Lord wants us to share with our families and friends about our needs.

So in that spirit of transparency and humility, we want you to know that each of our teachers and staff have willingly taken a large pay cut this school year in order to see us move forward in the work of educating the children. Personally, I also felt the Lord wanted me forego taking any salary this year in order to help Neighborhood. Yet, despite these significant reductions and challenges, all of our staff have been such great 'saints of God' in readily agreeing to make this sacrifice. After all, we at Neighborhood do truly consider this work of educating students for life our 'labor of love.' It comes from our hearts through our ***"work produced by faith, labor prompted by love and endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus."*** Overarching all is knowing that *'the joy of the Lord is our strength'*, and ultimately it is the ***'Lord Christ we are serving.'*** Thus, we aren't proceeding into this new year with fear, trepidation or doubt but with excitement and faith in what the children will learn and how all of us will grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord.

To help Neighborhood in this mission, our school has received a very encouraging blessing. A kind and generous alumni family, who loves Neighborhood and wishes to help our school during this time (while remaining anonymous), **has pledged a matching gift donation of up to \$10,000. So for every gift given to NCS during this fall season, it will in effect be doubled.** As a small non-profit Christian school, Neighborhood is solely supported through tuition and gifts, and this matching gift donation opportunity will be extremely helpful to us. So if you are able, would you kindly spread the word to your family, friends, alumni, and others that you may know who might want to help our school by giving to our Fall Matching Gift donation? We'd love to be able to take full advantage of this opportunity that the Lord has brought our way.

Serving together in Christ,
Rick Vidmar and Your Neighborhood Family

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.” (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

P.S. Here are ways of giving to our *Fall Matching Gift* with your tax-deductible donation:
Many Thanks & Blessings!

1) **Give through PayPal to Neighborhood Christian School.** Click [HERE](#)

2) **Checks made payable to Neighborhood (or NCS)** may be dropped off or sent to:
Neighborhood Christian School 655 South First St., Box C, Dixon CA 95620
(In the memo line of your check please indicate that it is for our **Fall Matching Gift** donation.)

3) **NCS website (www.neighborhoodchristian.org) has a 'Donate Now' button that will take you directly to PayPal.**

Neighborhood Christian School (aka NorCal Christian Schools, Inc.) is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization registered with the state of California. Thus, all donations made to our school are completely tax-deductible.

Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy for Students

The Neighborhood Christian School admits students of any race, color, national, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship program and other school administered programs