

# Victory Village Christian Academy

*Fifty-Four Years of Showing God's Unconditional, Healing Love to Teen Age Girls*

Heart Ministries, Inc., 201 S. Victory Road, Burrton, KS 67020; Phone 620.463.6112; [www.victoryvillagechristianacademy.org](http://www.victoryvillagechristianacademy.org)

*Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Director; Bill and Carole Cowell, Editors & Administrators*

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## From our Director, Kelli Schwarz Rump

It has been BUSY at Victory Village. September for us = Kansas State Fair. We were able to take all the VVCA girls to the state fair for a day. A local company provides free fair tickets to all Reno County students to come and enjoy the Kansas' Largest Classroom—the Kansas State Fair.



We watched an aerial show with a message included about not giving up on your dreams and pushing through when things are tough. After the Aerial show we all got a picture with the performer.

We all enjoyed doing many different things from seeing the butter sculpture, walking through the Birthing Center and seeing baby animals and learning a bit about cow and horse anatomy.



We got to see what it would be like to feel a baby calf in a cow.



The girls learned hands-only CPR as well as did some working out with the Air-Force. (Continued on page two)

## Visit the Village, with Bill and Carole

It was our 52<sup>nd</sup> year to have a booth at the Kansas State Fair. We appreciate all who helped us during the week, and we ourselves were able to be there for six out of the ten days. Friends, supporters, former students and new acquaintances stopped by to say hello or to find out more about the ministry.



Reminding us of the very first days of Heart Ministries, when we were still pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Marion, was a visit at the Fair from **Alan and Jandee Kruse**. Alan's mother was one of the first girls to come to our home, and they keep in close contact with each other. Alan and Jandee have become generous supporters of Victory Village.



**Malea Washee**, now married to **AJ Washee**, was one of our students at Victory Village Christian Academy a number of years ago. Those of you who support this ministry have been instrumental in the lives of so many young girls.



(continued on page two)

**FROM OUR DIRECTOR (continued from page one)**



Couldn't miss a quick stop at the VVCA Booth.



Checking out Bill's potatoes in the Horticulture Building.



Mr. N, Aubrey and Phica wearing their "Pig Hats."



There were so many different fun things that we were able to experience at the Fair. We ended our day with yummy ice cream from the Dairy Bar and watching some barrel racing. It was a full day of laughs, fun and lots of walking.

Other than the Kansas State Fair, the girls have been busy with Volleyball. They continue to have games throughout all of October. If you live close, we would love for you to come and cheer on our Saints!! There are a lot of Great things happening at VVCA. God is working and doing so many amazing things with these girls. We also have a graduation coming up in December (stay tuned for highlights on our Senior). Please continue to pray for the girls at Victory Village. Please join us in praying for an additional teacher in the school. Thank you for your continued Prayers, Love and Support.

**NEEDS / WANTS LIST:** Vegetable / Canola / Olive Oil - Meat for our Freezer (Pork, Beef, Chicken) - Trash Bags (13 gallon and 4 gallon - Grid Poster Board - Paper Towels – Napkins – Kleenex - Dish Soap - Hand Soap - Pool Table.

**VISIT THE VILLAGE (continued from page one)**

*From My Heart, by Carole*

We are so thankful for our school, and the hundreds who have come through our doors in the last 54 years. We meet the girls every morning at 8:00 for Chapel, five days a week. We eat lunch with them at the Dorm during the school week, and then are with them again for Chapel on Sunday mornings. In our daily Chapel we sing from the Hymnal, read from the Bible, have prayer time, and then watch part of a good movie. At 9:00 the girls start their classes with **Mr. N (Jerry Nininger), Mrs. Johnson** and **Katy Nininger**, our three teachers. Afternoon classes start at 1:00, Physical Education is at 3:00 in the Gym, followed by volleyball practice.



The girls often invite us to join them for their Sunday evening family dinner at the Dorm. On this particular Sunday evening the dinner was on the patio, and they set up a special table for us so we wouldn't have to sit on the floor. Both of us in our 80's do not get up and down as easily as when we were teenagers. Though we cannot deny our age, being with the girls still rekindles a teenage spirit in us, and makes us feel young again!

A highlight of our week is the Sunday Morning Worship, when we ask students to volunteer for roles in the service. They serve as Acolyte (lighting candles), asking for prayer requests and leading in prayer, reading Old Testament and New Testament Scripture, telling about missionaries and their work,, which we call a world view, giving testimonies and helping with the Communion Service. Here are pictures of some of the girls who have helped in the services recently.



Phica



Dustee



Jordan



Carolina



**Kalea**



**Takkiah**

Bill and I count it a privilege to still be able to minister to the girls, as we started out doing in 1970. We have no plans to retire from ministry, but rather to just “put on new tires” and keep on going!



**Bob Warne**, a member of one of our supporting Churches, **Bethany Baptist** of Bentley, is also President of the **Jesus Team** from the **Christian Motorcycle Association**. Bob and his wife and a number of their members visited one of our Sunday morning Chapel Worship services. They do a lot of fund raising for local charities and brought along a nice monetary gift for Victory Village.

We thank God for our supporting Churches, including several American Baptist Churches. Though our ministry is interdenominational, the **Victory Village Chapel** is recognized as an ABC Church. The annual meeting of the ABC Central Region was just held at the First Baptist Church of Lyons, and this was our display where people could find out more about the work of Victory Village Christian Academy. Our ABC connections have given us friends from many parts of the world. In 2001, it was our privilege to be part of a mission team to the State of Nagaland in Southeast India. **Sage Galbraith**, a VVCA student from Oklahoma, was also a member of our team. At the time, **Mang Sonna** from the neighboring State of Manipur, was a student at Central Baptist Seminary in Kansas City. His wife **Nem** and their two children, **Mawi** and **Suan** accompanied us on our trip back to the United States. We arrived home just a few days before the attack on the World Trade Center in New York. Mang is now the



Executive Director of the **Bethel Neighborhood Center** Kansas City, Kansas.



After the meeting in Lyons, Mang and Nem came to Victory Village for a visit and took us out for dinner at the Carriage Crossing in Yoder. Their children have grown up. Mawi is married, and Suan is a student at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



Students **Aubrey** and **Kaitlynn**, with Staff member **Emma Foster** enjoyed giving them a tour of the Village.



Staff Member **Karey Weaver** is helping **Aubrey** with her school work during Evening Study Hall. Karey is the granddaughter of good friends and supporters of the ministry, the late **Eli** and **Katy Helmuth**, founders of the Dutch Kitchen, restaurant.



Before our Chapel at Victory Village, we took our students to First Baptist Church in Hutchinson. It was a blessing to see our former Pastor and wife in Lyons, **Jim** and **Marsha Autrey**.

# Victory Village Christian Academy

OCTOBER, 2024



**Our 54th Year of Changing Lives for Jesus Christ and His Kingdom; Jesus said, *I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly. (John 10:10)***

**Our Mission** is to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus. Inspired by His Gospel, we seek to make God's amazing love and compassion real to teenage girls, serving them without charge to their families by providing a clean and safe home, a good Christian and State certified education, nutritious meals, training in life skills, outdoor and indoor activities and sports, opportunities to be involved in the ministry of helping others, and an introduction to Jesus, who will love them forever. We affirm the worth of all, without prejudice, partiality or intimidation. **Victory Village Christian Academy** is located at 201 S Victory Road, Burrton, KS 67020, and is licensed by the State of Kansas, with State certified teachers and curriculum. Credits are transferable, high school diplomas are earned and recognized for entrance to colleges. **Rev. Bill and Carole Cowell, Founders and Administrators; Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Director and Principal; Katy Nininger, Athletic Director, Assistant Principal, Marla Johnson, Jerry Nininger, Teachers; Barbara Hedges, Office Manager, Secretary-Treasurer, Wilma Engle, Accountant; Jessica Kerzner, Therapist; Kristi Colvin, Case Manager; Heather Smith, Dormitory Director; Robin Traffas, Shannon Fitzgerald, Larissa Hawkinson, Karey Weaver, Angela Simmons, Emily Moore, Amanda Herd, Karen Chaterton, Cayleena Pilgreen, Grace Skiles, Bri Neal, Becky Valdois, Ahneka Valdois, Brenda Shenk, Karey Weaver, Dormitory Staff; Emma Foster, Cook; Scott Hilburn, Maintenance Director; Board of Directors: Bob Friesen, Chairman, Rev. Bill and Carole Cowell, Becky Goering, Larry Chapman, Gordon Goering, Lyndal Penner, Rev. John Williams, Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Dr. Jessica Kerzner.**

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Here is **The Equestrian Class**, under the Direction of **Anna Nininger**, out for a ride. The girls really enjoy both caring for the horses and riding them.

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**Valerie Steen Jedlicka** came to VVCA from Iowa in 2002, and graduated in 2004. She married **Jay Jedlicka** in 2015 and they have three children, **Elias, Shiloh and Summer**. Here are some of Val's words about her time here.

*My soul was very broken when I arrived, and y'all showed me that God still loves the broken ones. I love you guys. You were my parents I needed in the place that I needed them (not that I didn't have my own great parents). Thank you for the love and support you and Carole have shown me over the last 21 years. I can't believe it's been 20 years since I graduated. If ever anyone in my life showed God's grace, it has always been y'all. I will always remember that I found my love for crochet, that my mom had first taught me at age 8. At VV, we always had at least ¾ of everyone during circle time crocheting, or they were discreetly chasing someone's yarn balls across the room. I loved seeing what Carole was making next most of all. She has been a huge inspiration behind my crocheting skills. I enjoyed hanging out in the office talking about various subjects, setting up and fixing the computers, and doing other things around the school. I enjoyed helping even the ones older than me pass their classes. Barb showed me compassion beyond measure and listened to me when I needed an ear. I made lasting friendships.*

Valerie wrote much more, but there's not room for it all. She will appreciate prayers for multiple physical problems, and we want to do all we can to encourage her.

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**WE WILL APPRECIATE ANY SPECIAL FINANCIAL HELP YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO SEND NOW. INCOME FOR SEPTEMBER DROPPED TO ABOUT HALF OF WHAT WE USUALLY RECEIVE. THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND THANKS FOR ANY SPECIAL HELP YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO GIVE. MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL!**