



Dear families,

A warm welcome to the Academy! My name is Carla Tibbetts and I am honored to have been called to lead as principal of the Preschool and Grammar School at Abiding Savior Academy beginning with the school year of 2024.

In 1999, I was called to Abiding Savior Free Lutheran church, our school's home, when they began to build a preschool. Over the next 15 years I served in the leadership of not only a growing preschool, but also an emerging Classical Christian Academy. In 2014, I served my last year in leadership while also serving as a teacher to a combined classroom of grades 3-5. In 2015, we hired our first grammar principal and from that year forward I was thrilled to remain in the classroom teaching ELA, History, Science, Math, Latin, and Bible not only at the grammar level, but also at the logic level.

At the Academy we use a Classical Christian approach to education. Through a Biblical view we embrace the grammar stage, the first stage of the trivium, as our foundation. Students will focus on the fundamentals of learning through hearing, reciting, and reading classical literature and poetry; by listening to instruction in their core subjects; and by studying the fine arts. Grammar students will also be experiencing the memorization of many facts and rules at this stage. This way of instruction helps students carry forward a solid foundation for future learning at the logic and rhetoric levels.

The teaching staff at the Academy and I look forward to guiding your children through the grammar stage. Your children will be encouraged to love learning, to work diligently, and to love creating beautiful work. As we move forward encouraging your child's growth I want you to know that your child's heart, mind, and soul are of utmost importance to me. I truly believe that all three must be tended to in order to have balance in all aspects of learning. Grammar students certainly are gaining knowledge in content matter and while that knowledge is important; they are also learning how to make friends, nurture friendships, and maneuver relationships. Beyond all of that they are learning how to make wise choices that can be carried forward in a world that may present them with big challenges. We are thankful for your commitment to the school and your trust in us to lead your children in a well-rounded learning environment through a Christ centered classical model.

As we head into the school year I have found myself soaking in the following verse and related thoughts:

"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ." Philippians 1:9-10

The first petition in Paul's prayer is that God would cause the cardinal Christian virtue of love to abound more and more, and that it would be accompanied by knowledge and all discernment, so that the Philippians' love would find expression in wise actions that would truly benefit others and glorify God. As Christians grow in their understanding of what it means to follow Jesus, they will increasingly be able to affirm and practice what is excellent. Such joyful obedience to God will give them the confidence of being found pure and blameless when Jesus returns. This does not imply instantaneous spiritual perfection but rather an increasing likeness to Christ. But fruit of righteousness is not produced in the believer's own power. Because that fruit comes through Jesus Christ, it will result in the glory and praise of God. (Crossway.org)

I am ready for the year and resting in Him!

Carla Tibbetts
Abiding Savior Academy
Preschool and Grammar Principal

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