



# HUNTING PARK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

FEBRUARY  
2019



## Transforming Hearts and Minds



### Pikachu, the Universe, and the Power of the Holy Spirit *by Kevin Deane, Principal*

Hello, friends of HPCA. Have you ever built one of those massive Lego creations? Right now, I am helping my son construct a one-foot-tall posable Pikachu. It is made up of over 800 tiny pieces, has two (two!) instruction booklets, and comes in a box as big as my torso. I am amazed at the detail and specificity of the designers. To complete the project, my son and I will have to carefully place all 800 pieces in proper alignment according to the directions. It will, without a doubt, require multiple construction sessions.



Think about this: unlike me and that massive Lego Pikachu, **God made everything out of nothing.** There were no raw materials or tools in the physical world. In chapter 11 of Hebrews, the writer says, *“By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.”* Through His command and by His power, God took the “nothing” and made everything. This is the nature of the God we serve. We have seen Him do this at HPCA from the very start - the fact that the school sprung to life in a matter of months is remarkable!

God does not stop there. With that same nature (everything from nothing), **God gives life where there is death.** Romans 4:17 says that our Lord is *“the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.”* He continues to demonstrate this truth in our world today. Now in our 20th year (I can’t believe it!), we at HPCA have seen and participated in the Lord’s goodness and blessings. From provisions that are relational and emotional to financial and educational, God is the giver of good gifts that give life. **This is the center of our life and of our hope: everything from nothing, life from death.**

At HPCA, we are working for the Lord in His Kingdom. We get to be a part of His creative processes, and, as we work, we see God’s life-giving nature in every part of His provision. **Whether He multiplies the fruit of our labor, or He provides blessing where there seems to be nothing, our God shows His true nature and power again and again.** There is a peace in knowing that we are dependent on such a remarkably capable and giving God.

Are you interested in learning more about what is happening at HPCA? Are you drawn to the possibility of getting more involved in God’s work here? I encourage you to consider how that might happen. We have so many avenues, such as becoming a member of our monthly prayer team, volunteering to teach a lesson or paint a wall, offering financial support, encouraging our teachers, and so much more. I invite you to come and see what the Lord is doing at HPCA as He continues to provide life and everything we need. Thank you, and God bless.

## WAYS TO HELP

- Contribute toward this year’s fundraising goal of \$535,000
- *PA Business Owners:* Donate to our scholarship fund through OSTC (Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit)
- Join our e-mail prayer team.
- Organize a donation drive for Good Stuff Thrift Store
- **Be a Special Runner in the Race for Education**
- Help out with the Race for Education. We could use volunteers for mailer writing (weekdays, March 14th–21st) or on Race Day (May 1st).

Contact Jen Deane, Director of Development, at 215-324-9180 or [jen@hpcaphilly.org](mailto:jen@hpcaphilly.org) if you want more information on these ways to help.

## Upcoming Events...

**Easter Program**  
Thursday, April 11th  
7:00 pm

**Race for Education**  
Wednesday, May 1st

**Mission Statement:** Hunting Park Christian Academy’s mission is to provide an affordable, quality, Christian education that celebrates a diverse community and leads children to know and serve the Lord.

4400 N. 6th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140 • 267-331-8002 • [www.hpcaphilly.org](http://www.hpcaphilly.org) • [jen@hpcaphilly.org](mailto:jen@hpcaphilly.org)

# HPCA DAY OF PRAYER

*Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. - 1 Thessalonians 5:18*

HPCA recently held our annual Day of Prayer, led by Miss Wire, our first-grade teacher. This year, the focus of the day was giving thanks in all circumstances. At chapel, Miss Wire challenged the students to look for things in their lives for which they can thank God instead of focusing on hardships they may be going through.

There were many different opportunities for prayer throughout the day. Our student bell-ringer (pictured left) walked around the school to signal staff and students to pause for a moment and pray, either as a class or individually. Student council placed a prayer box in the lunch room so students could share requests and praises. These were then prayed over by our student council. The day ended with the older students partnering with younger students to pray for each other.

We are so thankful that we are able to join in prayer together!



## DEBATE TEAM

This year, HPCA formed our first-ever middle-school debate team. Students meet together with their coach, Shin Lin, to prepare their arguments. They then travel to monthly tournaments to debate middle-school teams from other Philadelphia schools. The team has debated various topics including protecting anonymous speech under the First Amendment and whether cyberbullying should be a crime.

The students are gaining valuable skills by being on the debate team. The team has learned that debate is about presenting differing opinions while maintaining their composure. One member stated, "I see these skills helping me in the future by allowing me to speak and argue more efficiently." Another student felt that this experience has helped her learn to work more effectively with other people.



We are proud of our team (seen at left), and cannot wait to see how they continue to grow and develop!

## 20th Year Celebration



Choir Members



Volunteers

On November 3rd, HPCA celebrated our 20th year with former and current students, staff, board members, and supporters. It was such a powerful time of reflecting on God's faithfulness and provision over the many years.

Thanks to the many generous contributions received, we raised over \$25,000! Praise God for His continuous work through our ministry!



HPCA Alumni with Their Former Teachers