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# THE PRINCIPAL'S PAMPHLET

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by Melodie McKenzie



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PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Lansing, IL

## Women Serving the Savior

In the 1920s, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church was founded due to the marked trajectory toward the liberalism of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and also of Princeton. While J. Gresham Machen and other men were pivotal in this beginning, our heritage is not only the men who fought liberalism and founded the OPC. There were also strong, Godly women who sacrificed for the growth and support of this new denomination. They not only used their energy, enthusiasm, and creativity to serve, but they also clung firmly to the Word of God.

In recent years, the OPC was looking for further ways to serve, involve, and encourage the women in our denomination. After considering a number of ideas, Pat Clawson and Diane Olinger were led to the idea of having many ladies write short bios of many saints of the church. This idea came to fruition in the book, *Choosing the Good Portion: Women of the OPC*.

Our church session had gifted this book to all the women of our congregation a year or so ago, and I have enjoyed it greatly. Then this fall, I was able to attend the Women's Presbyterial in Neenah, Wisconsin. The speaker was co-editor Diane Olinger who was giving an overview of this book. It was a wonderful time of hearing stories of the women who have gone before us serving the Kingdom. From these stories, a theme came up which I believe is helpful to our school and especially to our young ladies.

One common false thought today is that modern women are more active than women in the past were because today women are more empowered. However, when you study history, you see that there have always been very active women doing good throughout history. Sometimes they are not as well-known because instead of seeking

the public eye, their full efforts were put to the work of the ministry. Faithful, diligent women today continue working for God using their spiritual gifts. The results of which are the fruits of the Spirit because against such things there is no law.

God gave each of us differing gifts in order that we may serve God's people. Do you believe that? It will encourage you each day if you do. It is our duty to God to search diligently for the gifts God has given us and to figure out how to use them generously in serving Him. We are part of a great cloud of witnesses of those who have gone before us. We must ask ourselves if we are being faithful stewards of what God has given us—our belongings, our talents, and our time. Is there anything we think is holding us back from living a life of service? How can we lay aside these weights and instead run the race God has given us faithfully and passionately? We may struggle with these questions every day which is why we need to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus who loves and strengthens us each day for His service.

#### Luke 10: 38-42

Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. 40 But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." 41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, 42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

## Classical Education for Girls and for Boys

There have been times in this world (even in classical days) when boys were educated but girls were not. However, God has created both male and female to benefit from education. How we respond to education helps us in our faithful service to God. In light of serving our God faithfully, we educate boys and girls at Providence with joy. God has made His people in two genders for a purpose. We are different but complimentary. The teachers work fervently to meet the needs of both our girls and our boys in the classroom. Sometimes their needs are the same like when the teacher teaches a given lesson. Other times, their needs are different, and we address small groups of boys or girls in challenging them to do right.

We believe that classical education meets the needs of both genders. God has given boys and girls the ability to learn and to grow. In our younger classes, the students are given all the tools they need to learn basic math and reading as well as the building blocks for learning. When they reach 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and begin grammar school, the students memorize, chant, sing, collect, and recite. They begin learning the orderliness of language in Latin, the story of God's redemptive, historical plan in Bible and history, and the poetry of human life told in classic literature. When logic school begins, the students' minds shift to more of a questioning state. They debate the choices of literature characters and relate them to themselves, other characters, and the world around them. They apply their knowledge across the curriculum relating ideas from all subject areas.

When our students leave us and move on to high school, we hope they continue on the classical path of learning how to learn. In addition to their high school course subjects, we pray that they learn the capstone of rhetoric: defending their faith, speaking with eloquence, and conducting themselves with honor.

This classical path that we've set the students on does not show partiality to boys or to girls. It is equally necessary and equally attainable for all. May God grant us success in our endeavors at Providence.

## Announcements

- ❖ Science Fair Open House: On Thursday, March 8 and Friday, March 9, 2018, the 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders will present the science projects they've been working on for the past few months. This will be held in the FUMC Sanctuary from 2:30 – 3:10 pm both days. If you'd like to join us, please park in the lot and enter Door 5 to come upstairs. The students presenting on Thursday will be: Isabella, Luke, Lucas, Becky, Clarissa, Noah, Clara, and Ben. The students presenting on Friday will be: Levi, Brandon, James, Margaret, Emma, Abbey, and Annika.
  
- ❖ Scripture Memory Assembly: On Thursday, March 15, we will host [Rev. Rick Anderson from CHAIM](#). He will be presenting "Paul to the Galatians," a memorized dramatization of Paul the Apostle's letter to the churches of Galatia, dressed in period dress as the Apostle might have rendered it. This will be held in the FUMC Sanctuary from 2:30 – 3:10 pm. Please park in the lot and enter Door 5 to come upstairs.
  
- ❖ Upcoming Events:
  - Monday, March 5 – Kindergarten Preview Day
  - Thursday & Friday, March 8 & 9 – Science Fair, 2:30 pm
  - Tuesday, March 13 – Field Trip: K – 4<sup>th</sup> to Maple Syrup Time
  - Tuesday, March 13 – National Latin Exam for 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

- Thursday, March 15 – Scripture Memory Assembly, 2:30 pm
- Thursday, March 15 – Association Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, March 20 – Chapel: Rev. Oord, 8:40 am
- Monday – Thursday, March 26 – 29 – Iowa Basics Tests
- Friday, March 30 – Sunday, April 8 – Spring Break
- Thursday, April 12 – Field Trip: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> to Fair Oaks Farms
- Tuesday, April 17 – Chapel: Rev. Semas, 8:40 am
- Thursday, April 26 – Recitation Night, 7:00 pm
- Friday, May 4 – Field Trip: 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> to Art Institute
- Thursday & Friday, May 10 & 11 – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Class Trip

Psalm 145: 1-7

I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,  
and his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall commend your works to another,  
and shall declare your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of your majesty,  
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,  
and I will declare your greatness.

They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness  
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.