

Upcoming 9th Graders

“I have been established, anointed and sealed by God. Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.” – 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

- There are **two** summer reading assignments (make sure to look at numbers 1 and 2); one is a book and oral presentation; the other is an assigned passage of scripture and a writing assignment:

1. All 9th graders are required to read one of the following books over the summer.

- **Assignment: A 4-6 minute oral presentation - book report and critique - over one of the books**
- **The book choices, a mixture of fiction and non-fiction, biblically based, classic, and contemporary, are the following:**
 - Crazy Love by Francis Chan
It's crazy, if you think about it. The God of the universe—the Creator of nitrogen and pine needles, galaxies and E-minor—loves us with a radical, unconditional, self-sacrificing love. And what is our typical response? We go to church, sing songs, and try not to cuss. Whether you've verbalized it yet or not, we all know something's wrong.
 - The Hunchback of Notre Dame by Victor Hugo ISBN 0811468275
Retells in simple language the hunchbacked bell ringer of medieval Notre Dame, Quasimodo, whose love for the gypsy dancer, Esmeralda, had tragic consequences.
 - She Said Yes: The Unlikely Martyrdom of Cassie Bernall by Misty Bernall, ISBN #0743400526
A moving memoir by Cassie's mother, Misty, we meet the real Cassie, a typical adolescent who struggles with peer pressure and her relationship with her parents. Regardless of what happened at Columbine, this is a moving tribute to an extraordinary young woman and a lesson for both parents and teenagers alike.
 - He Chose You by Max Lucado ISBN 084977894
Adolescence can be very difficult. You struggle to find your identify, you're pushed and pulled in many different directions by friends, peers, as well as your own desire to fit in. We have good news - you can know the incredible value God places on you while you grow through these turbulent years. God's perfect love is shown in the very details of Jesus' life.
 - A Brave New World by Aldous Huxley
“Community, Identity, Stability,” is the motto of Aldous Huxley's utopian world state. Into this world comes John the Savage, a man raised on a reservation - a place outside of modernity. The resulting contrasts of culture highlight the disturbing nature of Huxley's peaceful and orderly society.

- **House** by Frank Peretti and Ted Decker
An adrenaline-laced thriller! Two Alabama couples flee from a homicidal maniac – seeking refuge in a house that isn't quite as abandoned as it looks. Soon they realize their “hiding place” is really a trap. Can they escape their pursuer and the spiritual evil that threatens their very souls?
- **The Hound of the Baskervilles** by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Holmes and Watson are faced with their most terrifying case yet. The legend of the devil-beast that haunts the moors around the Baskerville families home warns the descendants of that ancient clan never to venture out in those dark hours when the power of evil is exalted. Now, the most recent Baskerville, Sir Charles, is dead and the footprints of a giant hound have been found near his body. Will the new heir meet the same fate?
- **Story of Esther** by Joan Wolf
She was a simple girl faced with an impossible choice. He was a magnificent king with a lonely heart. Their love was the divine surprise that changed the course of history. The beloved story of Esther springs to fresh life in this inspired novel that vibrates with mystery, intrigue, and romance.

2. Read 1st John chapters 1-5 (the book of 1 John).

- **Assignment: Three page (double spaced) essay including the following:**
 - **A short summary of the book**
 - **Application: What are the major components of the book? How does this book apply to the life of a Christian? How does this book apply to your life? Give specific examples and reflections.**