

SHEKINAH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

THE FLAME

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*And we all, who with unveiled
faces contemplate the Lord's
glory, are being transformed
into his image with
ever-increasing glory, which
comes from the Lord, who is
the Spirit.*

(2 Corinthians 3:18)

Welcome back!

The 2025-2026 school year has brought about many changes. We added a four-classroom modular to expand our space. Fresh paint is brightening the hallways.

Shekinah is now home to 206 full time K-12 students. With 12 part-time students our total student count is 218. Forty students are new to the school this year. Breaking it down further, 26 of these new students are in grades K-5, while grades 6-12 added an additional 11 students. Three of the 12 part-time students are also new.

We look forward to the things God has in store for us this year.



Administrator's Angle



-Dr. Josiah/Luttrull MEd
Head of School

We are excited to see all that God has in store for us in the months ahead as we journey together through another school year. This year, our theme "Into His Image" (2 Corinthians 3:18) will guide us in reflecting on how God is shaping us to become more like Christ. As we behold the glory of the Lord, we are being transformed day by day to reflect His likeness in our thoughts, words, and actions. Throughout the year, our chapels and Bible studies will help us explore what it means to be conformed to Christ's image. Our secondary students will spend focused time in daily mentoring groups studying what it means to be made in Christ's image and looking at practical ways to emulate Christ in every-day situations. Together, we desire that every student would grow in understanding who God has created them to be and how He is working grow them in righteousness.

It is our prayer that this will be a fruitful year of spiritual growth for our entire school community. Please join us in praying that both faculty and students will be continually shaped by the Spirit of God, reflecting the image of Christ in their classrooms, homes, and daily lives.

We look forward expectantly to all that God will do as we serve Him and walk together into His image.



Alumni News and Notes

Births:

Jonathan and **Kristina (Cooley) Bowman '15**; Peter Jon born May 31, 2025; first child, first son.

Caleb and **Sierra (Coblentz) Eicher '19**; Emma Louise born June 6, 2025; first child, first daughter.

Aaron '04 and Megan (Epp) **Shetler**; Amelia Grace born June 6, 2025; second child, second daughter.

Births cont.:

Ben and **Brooke (Cooley) Gingerich '21**; Clarity Jane born June 10, 2025; first child, first daughter.

Peter Jon '14 and **Ashley (Gingerich) Showalter '14**; Daisy Joy born August 14, 2025; second child, first daughter.

Justin and **Kelly (Chapman) Jones '13**; Hunter Clark born August 14, 2025; third child, third son.

Weddings

Andrew Yutzy '22 married **Camile Tonti** June 14, 2025.

Isaac Yutzy '23 married **MaryAisha Albert '23** July 12, 2025.

David Bultman married **Eliana Hall '23** August 9, 2025.

Ian Purdy '23 married **Hope Ferguson '21** August 23, 2025.

New faces to our SCS team!



Mrs. Kristina Digby
1st Grade Teacher



Ms. Katie Driskill
MS English/History
MS Choir/Electives



Mrs. Jennifer Miller
School Nurse

We are so excited to have these new faces join our staff!
Help us welcome them into the Shekinah family!



Mr. Aaron Hanna
MS/HS History



Mrs. Courtney Simon
MS/HS Office Manager



Mr. Ian Purdy
Facilities Manager

CHAPEL

by: Lindsey Cooley

On Wednesday mornings, the student body gathers together for a time of student-led worship and sharing from a speaker. In the first weeks of school, students and teachers got to hear from two different speakers. On August 27th, Jonathan Purdy came in to talk about Philippians 2:14-15. He focused on “do everything without grumbling or complaining.” He shared some personal stories from his life, and shared about other people in his life as well. It was a great reminder that as God’s children, we are to be lights in this world and not be overtaken by the things of this world.



Mr. Jonathan Purdy

On September 3rd, the students heard from the Head of School, Dr. Luttrull. He first used a few students, varying from elementary to high school, in a demonstration. One student would instruct their partner to draw a certain picture, however the student who was drawing could not see the picture. Dr. Luttrull used this demonstration to show that we as Christians need to keep our eyes on Jesus in order to become more like Him.



Dr. Josiah Luttrull

FALL RETREAT

by Graci Higgins

During the first week of school, Shekinah's 6th-12th grade students traveled to Camp Crosley in North Webster, Indiana. About 150 students, 26 teachers, and parent chaperones attended. During their time there, they had the opportunity to participate in several activities, including the giant swing, the tower, the challenge course, the H2-Woah zone, team-building, and the zipline.



Twice a day, the students met for a time of worship led by Matt Rickley and Shekinah's worship team. Following that, the junior high and high school students split for a time in the word discussing our theme for this school year, "Into His Image," led by Rickey Smith (high school), and Chase Reibel (junior high).



On Thursday night, all of the students met in the amphitheater around the fire. Some students shared their testimonies and how God had been moving in their hearts that week. The seniors then helped students roast marshmallows and make s'mores.

New Student Interviews!

by Lindsey Cooley



We interviewed some new students to get their perspective on the school year so far.

Kindergarten has introduced 13 new kids to the Shekinah community this year! They are full of energy and excitement! Kindergartener Kendra Prater said that her favorite colors are pink and blue. Her favorite Bible story is when Jesus died on the cross for our sins. Her favorite part of school is playing on the playground. Furthermore, Miriam Collins is another new student. She shared that her favorite part about Shekinah is recess and her teacher, Mrs. Yutzy.



The 2nd grade class has a total of 25 students this year, five of them being new! Azariah Duarte is one of the new faces in 2nd grade. His favorite class so far is Art, and his favorite parts about Shekinah are the friends, and of course recess! Blayden Fox is another new addition to the 2nd grade classroom. He shared that his favorite Bible verse is Genesis 1:1. We asked him what his favorite part of school is so far, and he talked about the nice people here.

Moving up into middle school, we talked to Kenzie Philips, who is a new 7th grader. Her favorite class is Pre-Algebra with Mr. Hershberger. When asked about her favorite part of Shekinah, Kenzie said, "Everyone is super nice [...] I've made a lot of friends." She attended Fairbanks last year. She enjoys playing volleyball. Her favorite hobbies are writing and reading books. She was a very fun student to interview.



The 8th grade has 10 students this year, three of them which are part-time. One of the two new 8th grade students, Joshua Fraley, said that his favorite color is blue and his favorite class is Pre-Algebra. His favorite part about Shekinah so far has been chapel and the school retreat. He was enrolled at Mechanicsburg last school year. He shared that his favorite hobby is taking part in sports.

We anticipate that great things will come out of this school year!

Fall Sports Kickoff

by Jaden Denney

Volleyball

The varsity volleyball team has kicked the year off strong with a 4-0 record! Varsity captain, Eleyna Beachy, said, “It’s been a good season so far, I’m looking forward to the post season competition!”

The junior varsity girls have also had a strong start to their season. Captain, Chloe Groff, said, “The season is going very well, every girl is working very hard and it’s paying off because we have a winning record!”

The junior high volleyball team is improving more and more every game! Sophia Beachy said, “the team is really encouraging and we have been getting better, I think we can definitely win our next game!”



Golf

Shekinah’s golf team has been doing well as the team comes near the end of their season. Senior Jayce Yoder said, “Things are pointing in the right direction, now we are consistently scoring under 200. We have new golfers stepping up, scoring lower, we have new players improving and coach is very proud of them, and he likes the way things are headed.”



Mark Your Calendars.....

September

16-18—Farm Science Review
18—PT Conferences 12:30 Dismissal
19—PT Conferences NO SCHOOL
23-26—MAP Testing

October

17—PSAT for Juniors
17—End of 1st Quarter 12:30 Dismissal
23-24— NO SCHOOL Fall Break

Answer to May Challenge



Lydia Slabaugh correctly identified the baby in this picture as Emma McDowell from the Class of 2025. Congratulations, Lydia for winning a 2025 yearbook!

September Challenge

Can you answer this riddle?

**I have cities, but no houses.
I have mountains, but not trees.
I have water, but no fish.
What am I?**

Text 606-568-6156 with the answer!

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