

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in the one true God as revealed through the Holy Bible in the Old and New Testaments.

We believe that God created man in His image for His good pleasure and gave us a will that we might freely choose to love and serve Him. The highest calling to man is to worship and serve God.

We believe that man chose sin over God, and as a result received a sinful nature that is inherited by all mankind.

We believe God became man in the person of Jesus Christ to redeem an inherently wicked people to Himself.

We believe that Jesus Christ suffered and died for the sins of all mankind, and was raised to life that we might be raised to new life and be presented to the Father blameless and without condemnation.

We believe that each of us has a responsibility to receive from God the gift of salvation through Christ, by repentance and confession, and is (then) received into the Body of Christ.

We believe that the Spirit of God dwells within His people that He may be made manifest through and by His people.

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ

We believe that God's people are placed throughout the world in many cultures, personalities, talents and beliefs and they, being many members, are one body -- the Body of Christ -- The Church.

We believe that this body, though diverse in many ways, may be brought to complete unity to let the world know that Jesus Christ was sent by the Father.

MILFORD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

273 Elm Street Milford, NH 03055

Member of ACSI & GSCSA

Pastor Kyn Gdanian – School Chaplain

Trisha Dion – Business Manager

Paul Sontag – Principal of High School

Susan Voskuil – Elementary Department Head

Milford Christian Academy

Established 1982

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History and Organization

MCA, formerly known as Liberty Christian, Lamb Day, and Light of the World, is the realization of a vision shared by several families then belonging to Liberty Christian Fellowship. The vision involved ministering a Godly education to the children of the whole body of Christ in the Milford area. Since its inception in 1982, the school has grown to include students from Readiness through grade twelve. Many other Christians have since caught the vision and are now an integral part of the ministry. The Dual Program was added in the fall of 1993. (See page 5)

The school's policies are set and the administration is guided by a school board whose members may belong to a number of Christian churches in the area. The ministry is overseen by the Light of the World Christian Church. The school reflects basic doctrines common to both main line and non-denominational Christian churches.

MCA is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International, an organization which monitors and supports Christian Education; and the Granite State Christian School Association.

Purpose

*"that in all things He (Christ) may have the preeminence."
Colossians 1:18 KJV*

The purpose of Christian education is to equip and train the students for service by "*teaching them to obey everything I (Jesus) have commanded you.*" Matthew 28:18-20. Since Christ is the center of the Christian life, our education is concerned with the process of character development toward Christ-likeness. It is the task of Christian education to aid in training God's people for the work of His ministry.

2.

The specific application of these foundational principles forms the vision God has given for MCA. This vision has the following key aspects:

1. To support and to build functional Christian families. Malachi 4:1-6, "*turning the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to the fathers.*"

2. To use the Bible as the main textbook. All other material, resources, and techniques must be viewed in Its light.

3. To be a distinct model of Christian Education involving home, school and church.

4. To minister to all children of the Body of Christ in the greater Milford area.

5. To provide a Christ-centered education ministering to the whole child.

6. To recognize the students, not just as "children in the Body of Christ," but as present members and future leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ.

7. To provide curriculum and grade placement based upon the child's developmental level, not upon standards of age or "curriculum expectations."

8. To function as an integral part of the teaching/pastoring ministry of the church. We can only operate successfully within the Biblical framework of God's authority in the church and family.

9. To serve the community by participating in their events.

3.

Philosophy of Education

Truth is accepted by a spiritually discerning student who has the Spirit of God through new birth and has a continuing relationship with God the Father through the Word of God. Teachers will build on this foundation using a wide range of academic materials that will present a clear Christian world view through all the academic disciplines. Malachi 4:1-6 is a benchmark for teacher, parent and student relationships - "*turning the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to the fathers.*"

Wisdom being the goal of education, our curriculum is designed to build strong Christians through the instruction of Biblical principles as found in all academic areas. "*Hollow and deceptive philosophies which depend on human tradition,*" Colossians 2:8, or humanism, will be revealed for their true nature. Opportunities to walk out and challenge their Christian convictions will provide a barometer for spiritual growth. These opportunities will be provided by the families, school and churches involved. "*Wisdom is justified by her children,*" Matthew 11:19.

4. Methodology/Principal Approach

A Biblical methodology, one employed by Jesus and found consistent with Scripture, is called the "Principal, Approach." Principal means "origin, first

cause, or that from which a thing proceeds." Approach means "to draw near unto." The Principle Approach incorporates the Four R's, or basic steps in the teaching/learning process:

- **Research** - accumulation and presentation of data, facts and information.
- **Reasoning** - pondering the implication of the collected material.
- **Relating** - interacting with concepts and material.
- **Recording** - application of concepts and principles.

Thus, the Principle Approach is a method of bringing Biblical principles (seeds) so close to us that we plant them as the guiding philosophy of every area of our lives. It is "America's historic Christian method of Biblical reasoning which makes the Truths of God's Word the basis of every subject in the school curriculum." The "Principle Approach" was coined by Rosalie Slater in her publication, *Teaching and Learning America's Christian History: The Principle Approach*. From this material we have develop-ed our Principle Approach to education.

Three Program Options

1. Day School Program

This program includes Readiness through grade twelve. We offer the required academic courses for a diploma as well as many other academic and extra-curricular activities including soccer and basketball.

The average student/teacher ratio is 15 to 1 which maximizes student learning and allows for more personal instruction.

2. Dual Program for Grades 5-12. (Day School and Home School)

The Dual program is a unique model of education pioneered by MCA & Southern NH Home School Assn. where students attend MCA two days per week and are home schooled three days. **ALL** students home schooled a portion of the week must be evaluated twice a year.

The two days at school have generally been Tuesday & Thursday, with the home school students in classes with day students. The program for the 5th & 6th grades must be coordinated with the classroom teacher.

5. The Dual program is designed for governmentally sound students. Students with motivational or behavior problems do not qualify. The slow learner as well as the gifted student will fall well within the scope of this program. The focus of the Dual Program is to place students where they can best fulfill God's call on their lives. Students should possess a willing heart, and an understanding of Biblical authority with reasonable self-governing skills.

ALL students attending classes at MCA have a dress code. See *General Handbook*, available in the Academy office.

3. Home School Notification & Evaluation Only

This service for families who have chosen to home school, is offered adhering to the requirements of NH State regulation Ed.3:15 and RSA 193:1-6.

We consult with the families in areas of testing, placement, and curriculum. Three reviews are required per year.

- To present a curriculum outline and scope and sequence for the year.
 - Mid-year evaluation to keep track of progress.
 - End-of-year evaluation and next year's enrollment and curriculum outline.
- The first year at MCA, home school families will have an extra evaluation after the first quarter.

The Stanford Achievement Test is an option available in the spring. Registration is required before October 1.

MCA Curriculum

Although the curriculum is designed for the average student, MCA students generally rank higher than average in achievement. School programs are geared toward training and equipping the whole child academically, spiritually, psychologically, socially and

physically, thus bringing the student to an understanding of God's purpose on earth and his place in it.

Scope and sequence of the curriculum are designed for a complete high school program assuring college entrance or other vocational opportunities. All courses are approved by the School Board. Not all courses will be offered each year. Need, demand, and staffing will each play a role in courses offered.

The Word of God is the basic text taught daily, and all other materials find their standards therein. The Bible provides the basis for character training and habits of respect, obedience, and honesty.

6.

The primary grades stress fundamentals with special emphasis on phonetic skills for reading. Junior & senior high emphasize the application of Biblical truths and provide guidance as students begin to find their place in the Body of Christ. Other benefits include:

- God honoring textbooks
- Bible-based curriculum & methodology.
- Committed Christian teachers
- Structured, disciplined classrooms
- Art, Music, physical education, and drama
- Sports - basketball & soccer
- Competition in various subjects

Graduation Requirements

A diploma will be issued to day school students upon

completion of the credit requirements.

Home schoolers must be enrolled for one year in Dual, or one semester in Day, and have demonstrated and verified the completion of the program requirements in order to receive a diploma.

NOTE: A high school diploma is not required for most colleges entrances, but a Graduation Equivalency Diploma (GED) is recommended. Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) scores rank high in importance, as well as a good portfolio and student interview. Students are encouraged to design well - rounded portfolios of achievement and competencies.

For specific requirements, see MCA's *General Handbook*.

Staff

Teachers are qualified based on:

- Clear Christian testimony in the Christian community and local church.
- Ability to teach within the philosophy, methodology and curriculum statements.
- Their gifts, ability and experience in teaching
- A direct leading and call of God
- A bachelor's degree, or equivalent, for all academic subjects.
- A staff development plan is required of all staff

Transportation

School bus transportation to and from MCA is provided by the town of Milford to those students who reside in Milford. Otherwise, transportation of children to and from school is the sole responsibility of the parents.

Visitors

Visitors are welcome. Arrangements may be made by telephoning the Academy office at 673-9324 OR 672-6448

7.

Location

MCA uses the Light of the World Church building at 273 Elm Street, which is one mile west of the Milford Oval, (101A).

Services

- Testing, evaluation, placement
- Program design
- Counseling and guidance
- Referral to other agencies for specific needs.

Admission

Admission is open to students of good character without reference to race, nationality, or color, provided the family is in unity with the child's instruction under our Statements of Faith, Christian Education and Purpose (found in the *General Handbook*), and is faithfully committed to a Bible-believing church.

Incoming students will be tested and placed at levels commensurate with their current academic achievement. Testing is only one aspect of the applicant's file and is considered in conjunction with all the other available data

Specific information is found in the *General Handbook* available in the academy office.

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