



The Law of Love For a New School Year

By **Chuck Hornsby**



Nearly every day, we end teacher prayers by praying, "Lord, help us live under the law of love." In many ways, the call on our life revolves around avoiding ten negatives and doing two positives. We call the ten the commandments. But when Jesus asked what was the greatest commandment, the scribe answered with the commandment to love God and neighbor.

Certainly, to live the law of love, we must obey the ten and sometimes that is difficult enough, especially if you see how Jesus expanded them with the Sermon on the Mount. But living the law of love requires so much more of us than that. Jesus shows us the way. By His death on the cross, Jesus absorbed the evil that was mankind's heritage and destiny. We too are called to absorb the evil that comes at us through the sin, weakness and ignorance of others. We are called to absorb it through forgiveness, forbearance, correction, formation, discipline and, perhaps most

importantly, mercy.

"So what does all this have to do with the beginning of school?" you ask. Well, I asked the Lord for a word for this year, and He gave me the Scripture from Jeremiah that says, to "be strong and bold because God is with us." I asked Him what that meant in light of recent words about revival among the kids, and their call to go out and bring Jesus to the nations. I asked Him what that meant in relation to our recent foray into doing treasure hunts and the word a few years ago to the kids about doing hard things. I asked Him what that meant in relation to Pope Francis declaring the upcoming year as a year of mercy. I asked Him what that meant in relation to one of the teachers reminding us that each of the children are treasures and subjects for our daily school treasure hunts. I asked Him what that meant about having well prepared lesson plans and fair assessments. I asked Him what that meant about avoiding sarcasm as a means of main-

taining order and avoiding legalism as a way of exercising authority. I asked Him what that meant in relation to the unique roles of students and parents and teachers and helpers and administrators. Of course, it all boils down to living the law of love. Lord, help us live under the law of love. Help us see clearly what that means in each and every situation with each and every person.

I have asked all of you to pray daily for the school. We need God's protection, His provision, and His guidance. We need discernment for what constitutes love and mercy. We need grace and insight. We need words of knowledge and wisdom. We need the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit if we are to truly be "a family educating our children," especially these children who it seems have a very heavy call on their lives. Let us all set out this year to live under the law of love, and let's pray it into the best school year in our history.

Richmond County Animal Ordinances Allow Controlled Domestic Animals

By Jerry Germann



One of the questions on the P&R consultation was, "At present, we have no agreements about individual families having 'farm' animals such as chickens, roosters, goats, etc. in Faith Village. Should we continue the present policy (no agreements) or should we develop enforceable guidelines that allow householders as much freedom as possible while considering the common good?" Most of us responded to this question by asserting that we wanted to keep the present policy (no agreements) and that our neighbors should be able to work out whatever issues that may occur among themselves.

An issue that wasn't part of the above question came up on several consultations. How do we handle the issue of loose dogs and cats and the nuisance of random "poop" piles in the Village area? As the Elders discussed these comments, the decision was made that I should research the Augusta codes and statutes that deal with dogs, cats and all the animals that live in Faith Village. The ordinances that I looked at concern chickens, livestock and domestic animals.

Here's what I found out. Chickens are allowed in Richmond and Columbia Counties. A maximum number is not listed, and no permit is required. Roosters are also allowed, but Richmond County has a noise ordinance that you need to explain to your rooster or he may end up in hot water. Domestic animals are dogs and cats and others that live and breed in a tame condition. Livestock are all animals of the equine, bovine, or swine class, including goats, sheep, mules, horses, hogs, cattle and other grazing animals. Domestic animals are permitted in residentially zoned areas; livestock are only permitted in agriculturally zoned areas or in specific areas that have received a permit from the Board of Health.

Dogs and cats have to be under control. They cannot be on another's property without the permission of the property owner. Dogs have to be on a leash when off their property and accompanied by an individual. Any animal which is not under manual control of a person and is on any public road or street of Augusta-Richmond County or on any property, not

belonging to the owner of the animal unless by permission of the owner of such property shall be considered "running at large or straying". All such animals come under the authority of the Animal Control Services.

Of course there is much more in the Title IV (Public Health) section of codes and ordinances than I have highlighted here. If you would like to look at these ordinances go to www.augustaga.gov then to the Law Department, then to codes and statutes, then to Title IV. Title III (Public Safety) has the noise ordinances, but I couldn't find it. This information came from Animal Services Personnel.

Now that you have read this, I thought of a Scripture that seems appropriate for covering the animal discussions that may follow: Col. 3:14-15. "And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful."



Given by Wayne Rose at the 9/3/15 Prayer Meeting:

My Young People, Not long ago I told you to "Open wide your hearts" — to My love and to My grace.

Tonight I tell you to "Open wide your minds" again to My love and My grace! The battleground for the salvation of souls is often waged in the mind. The enemy is well trained and proficient in mind warfare, and many souls have been lost to the lies and deception of secularism and worldly thoughts. Don't allow Satan into the field of your mind. Shut him out with good thoughts — thoughts of kindness, compassion and charity — especially toward those who may

deny Me or think of you as foolish for your beliefs. These weapons cause great damage to the enemy, and make his attempts to enter your mind useless. Take every thought captive to Me! Don't entertain foolish thoughts or waste time dreaming of worldly success. Open wide your minds and I will fill them with all that is Holy, pure, and pleasing to the Father. Open wide your minds — Open wide your minds — Open wide your minds!

A Letter of Recognition and Gratitude

Dearest Women of Alleluia,

This past season has been quite intense. Many of you are weary. Some of you are frustrated. This has not gone unnoticed. Your service to your community is beautiful, giant, fragrant, necessary and pleasing to our Lord.

How intense has this season been? Recently in one support group, you supported a mother giving birth, three people recovering from surgeries, one mother on bed rest and moved four families. When the women of this support group had given their all, the rest of you extended yourselves and served above and beyond the many needs of your own support groups. As these events were unfolding, you continued to pray and intercede to the Lord, to run your homes, raise your children, supervise summer school work, coach our children, make your vacations fun and relaxing for your families, write Dove articles, bake graduation cakes to honor the graduates, give mercy and compassion to our family whose mother died, serve your churches, drive your children to countless practices, travel for your work, attend prayer and support group meetings, attend a marriage retreat, produce and direct a language and cultural school for our Brazilian guests, teach and attend a School for Spiritual Direction and the list continues ad infinitum.

So much of this work can only be made possible by the genius of women. The way that women intuitively know what needs to be done and who needs to be served is nothing short of remarkable. Even more amazing is how your God-created compassion for those in need drives you to incredible heights of Christian charity.

Only the Lord knows and understands completely how much you have given, and what you have done in secret will be greatly rewarded by Him. This letter is a small recognition of the beautiful crowns that await each of you and the special places that our Lord will have for you for all eternity—a too small recognition indeed, for the amount of stretching, serving, kindness and fortitude you generously and charitably demonstrated during this past season.

No part was too small and no woman gave less than was needed to accomplish this mighty work. Please be encouraged. We are grateful beyond words! Our life would not be possible without your constant sacrifice and your witness to the grace of our Savior active in your lives. You are lovely, and we love you more than is possible to demonstrate.

Most sincerely and with every hope that Jesus will provide you with consolation,

The Pastoral Team

Alleluia Community School is a Family Educating Our Children

By Dan Funsch, Principal
Photos by Anne Seith and Dan Funsch

The 2015-2016 school year features some new faces at ACS, as well as some familiar ones in new roles. In addition to his custodian and maintenance roles, Mr. Ott will be working with the 9th graders as their LifeSkills teacher. Mrs. Dolin is returning to the high school staff as the 9th grade Grammar and Composition teacher.

The elementary school is delighted to have Ms. Davis on board as Mrs. Jackson's assistant. Mrs. Shuford is putting her lifelong love of Christian unity to work as she teaches the History of Christianity to our 10th graders.

Mrs. Balducci and Ms. Sanford are expanding their service from last year's middle school teaching assignments to include high school courses; they will each teach a section of American History. In addition, Ms. Sanford will teach Old and New Testament to the 9th graders and American Government/Economics to the upper classmen. Mrs. Balducci will also teach World Literature to our 10th graders.

Although not new to the ACS high school, Mrs. Visintainer has significantly increased her teaching load this year to include British Literature. We are blessed to have these dedicated men and women volunteering their time and energy in our school.



Superintendent Chuck Hornsby says that the picture above is the best example of our philosophy that Alleluia Community School is a family educating our children. Each year during first assembly, the kindergarten class is introduced. Then any high school senior who is related to a kindergartener is called forth, followed by any related staff members. This year, five seniors and seven teachers joined the 11 kindergarteners.



Kelly Dolin



Kathy Shuford



Class of 2016 girls



Overall Coordinator Bob Garrett praying over the parents, staff and students



Marsha Davis



Rachel Balducci



Ross Ott



Trish Sanford



Supertendent Chuck Hornsby addressing the Assembly

© 2015 Alleluia Community, adm. by Alleluia Christian Service Center, Inc. P.O. Box 6805, Augusta, GA 30916-6805, (706) 798-1882. All rights reserved.