



One-a-Day Prayer for HPCA: 2021-2022 School Year

September 30, 2021

Greetings from HPCA! I just returned from a three-day development conference where I was surrounded by different non-profits all sharing joys and challenges of fundraising. The theme of the conference was **Invest in What Lasts**. Throughout different seminars, we were encouraged to examine our nonprofits and focus on the impact, quality, and integrity of our missions. The things that are non-negotiable; why we exist. Then, simply, to invite people to be a part of that mission and invest in what God is doing.

As you know, the mission of Hunting Park Christian Academy is to provide a quality, affordable Christian education that serves a diverse community and leads children to know and serve the Lord. Such a clear example of our mission being played out is our highlighted teacher below, Randy Caro, one of our alumni teachers. It has been amazing to see alumni become staff members, or to have alumni choosing HPCA for their child's own education. I spoke with an older alumnus during afternoon pick up the other day who said that, after years of struggling, he finally understands what it means to put God first in his life. It's inspiring to see our mission of "leading children to know and serve the Lord" played out so clearly. Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at Hunting Park Christian Academy and investing in the things that truly last.

Staff Highlight for October: Randy Caro, Middle School Social Studies and Science Teacher

Our highlighted teacher for October is Randy Caro, our long-term sub for middle school social studies and science. Randy is one of our alumni staff members and met his wife, Kayla, when they were students in our first-grade classroom! It has been amazing to see Randy grow into a man who is serving God in his community as a youth leader, with a passion to give back to young people who face similar challenges that he faced growing up. We are thankful to have him as a long-term sub for Miriam Nesbitt. Upon her return, he will remain at HPCA as a substitute teacher and provide admin support. Below are his requests:



- Pray for a successful school year for both students and staff, despite what is going on outside our school doors.
- Pray that the Lord provides the resources, people, and connections to further the mission and vision of HPCA for our community.
- Pray for the Lord's guidance as I pursue seminary.
- Pray for strength, motivation, and guidance as I continue my role as youth ministry director at my church.
- My wife, Kayla, and I recently moved back to the Hunting Park neighborhood, and it has been a tough transition as we are still settling in and unpacking. Moving is great, but it can become frustrating. Pray for our transition.
- Pray for strength and determination as I work toward a better and healthier lifestyle.
- Feel free to e-mail Randy. His email address is randyc@hpcaphilly.org.

Memory Verse for October:

Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell. – Psalm 43:3

Calendar of Events

Mon., Oct. 4th – NWEA Map Testing Begins

Fri., Oct. 8th – ½ Day Dismissal

Mon., Oct. 11th – No School (Indigenous Peoples' Day)

Fri., Oct. 15th – Day of Prayer

Thurs., Oct. 21st – ½ Day for Middle School – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Fri, Oct. 22nd – ½ Day – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Praise Report

- Praise God that we are back in school! We have 176 students this year – including many new students to the HPCA family!
- Praise God for our amazing teachers who have truly done wonderful job this first month with their classes as they adjusted to being back in full classrooms. It has not been easy, and they are doing it joyfully!
- Praise God for our lunch crew! Every day, they deliver breakfast to each classroom and package lunches in a way students can quickly transport them to their classroom. They are tremendously hard-working and we're so thankful for them!

General Prayer Requests:

Pray for our students:

- For new students to feel welcomed, safe, and loved. Roughly 23% of our students in grades k – 8 are new this year.
- Pray for continued adjustment to the classroom environment;
- For our 8th grade students who are beginning to apply to high schools. Pray for wisdom in their decisions.
- For health, safety, and protection; for students to be calmed who may be anxious about COVID.
- For students facing instability at home to seek God and draw near to Him.
- For close bonds to be created with new teachers and that they would feel comfortable talking with them;
- For new students who are struggling academically to not be discouraged and to persevere;
- For students to attend a local youth group. Mrs. Figueiredo and Miss Lee lead an in-person youth group in the neighborhood that many middle school students and high school alumni attend.
- For our students to see Christ in our staff and to come to know Christ as their personal Savior;
- To daily kneel before God.

Pray for our teachers:

- Pray for times of rest and refreshing. Full classrooms are definitely more draining than smaller.
- Pray for positive parent/teacher conferences for progress reports. Pray that the teachers would be able to encourage parents in how to effectively help their children with school.
- To establish good relationships with their class and that they identify and meet their students' needs, especially new students who are struggling.
- That they would give any anxious thoughts over to God and be able to rest in Him.
- For teachers to remain in prayer and seek God's guidance, strength, and renewal each day.
- Continue to pray for Miriam's daily healing and strength.
- To daily kneel before God.

Pray for our students' families:

- To be open to hearing and receiving the Gospel;
- To connect to a local church;
- Pray that parents attend their parent/teacher conferences and that they would view it as an opportunity to get to know and partner with their child's teacher.
- Pray for 8th-grade parents who are beginning to navigate the high school selection process.
- Pray that our families would feel comfortable speaking to our teachers and staff about things going on in their lives and support they may need at home.
- Continue to pray for families going through financial hardships.
- Praise God for our new families! Pray that they would feel comfortable coming to staff members and would feel welcomed, loved, and supported.
- Pray for wisdom, peace, and support for parents feeling overwhelmed by parenting.
- To daily kneel before God.

Pray for our administration:

- For Kevin: Pray for true rest in his sabbatical. Pray that he would be free from worrying about day-to-day operations at HPCA and trust God.
- For Jen: Continue to pray for the adjustment at home and in the office with Kevin on sabbatical. Pray for peace, stamina, and creativity as we continue this year.
- For Cynthia and Melissa, our receptionists: Pray that Cindy and Melissa would be a light to each parent and student.
- For Tanya, our principal: Praise God that she accepted this responsibility of being interim principal. Pray for endurance and strength as she leads our staff this year in this new role.
- To daily kneel before God.

Pray for our general needs:

- For continued provision of funding for this school year.
- For provision of individuals to donate to our scholarship fund through the tax credit program.
- For wisdom in strategic planning for the future (budget decisions, building decisions, expansion planning, new administrative organization).
- For God to lead us to businesses to support our scholarship fund through OSTC.
- For continued direction for our board of directors. Pray for wisdom as we seek to expand our board.
- That HPCA would be a blessing to the Hunting Park community.
- Pray for opportunities to support parents.
- That HPCA will be a place where Christ continually abides.***

Thank you again for your prayers. Thank you for blessing HPCA so that we can be a blessing!

God bless,

Jen Deane
Director of Development