

# The Lighthouse BEACON

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## Making a DIFFERENCE

Jude 1:22



## From the President



*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.* (Hebrews 13:8)

A new school year has begun, and it reminds me of the faithfulness of our Lord Jesus Christ. He truly is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Forty-six years ago God gave a vision for individualized, Biblical education. Accelerated Christian Education<sup>®</sup> continues to follow that vision and prayerfully seek His direction daily. It is our privilege to provide a Bible-based, character-building, individualized learning program to meet the educational needs of His precious children. We continue to say, *Here am I.* (Exodus 3:4b)

As a LCA homeschool family, you can touch the lives of your children with God's Word and by setting an example in living the character traits of Christ before them. Committed, "Giving the control of my life to the Lord," is on my heart. *Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.* (Psalm 37:5) Our faithful commitment to our God and our children will touch their lives for time and eternity.

Our nation is in great need of Godly leaders who follow Biblical principles. What an amazing opportunity we have to impact our children to be committed and to prepare them to love their God and their country with a heart to restore our nation to "one nation under God."

May we commit to fervent prayer in 2016—prayer for our children, our churches, and our nation! *Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.* (Psalm 112:1)

A servant of Jesus Christ, for the children's sake and God's glory,

*Esther Howard*  
Esther Howard, D.Litt.  
President

## Nigeria: Making a Difference



**Mr. Olumuyiwa Okunlola**

When the Lord called Mr. Olumuyiwa Okunlola to work with children, he had no idea how far it would take him. As he spoke to the students and staff at this year's International Student Convention in Missouri, Mr. Okunlola shared his insights as a former student who used the Accelerated Christian Education curriculum and as the current A.C.E.<sup>®</sup> consultant in Nigeria.

Mr. Okunlola and his family started homeschooling with used PACEs from countries such as Australia. "When my parents discovered the A.C.E. program in Nigeria, we thought, 'wow, this is wonderful.' My brothers and I were soaking up those PACEs—enjoying the whole scoring process, the whole Scripture memory process. We were just loving the whole thing." His parents later went on to establish a school in Nigeria using the A.C.E. system as well.

It was in those early years that Mr. Okunlola started to see God's path for his life. "I already knew that God had called me to work with children, but I thought it was just on Sunday," he said. "I didn't know that He wanted me to work with children every single day of the week. One day, while I was in school . . . the thought came to me, wouldn't it be wonderful if every child in Nigeria can enjoy what I am enjoying? That wasn't my idea. That idea came from God. And that was when I knew that God had called me to work in Christian education."

After graduating from a university in the United States and doing his internship at A.C.E., Mr. Okunlola returned to Nigeria in 2010. Currently being the A.C.E. consultant in Nigeria, he conducts Christian Educators' Conventions as well as Administrators' and Supervisors' Training for nearly 100 Nigerian schools. He noted that 2016 marked the first year that Nigeria sent students to the International Student Convention.

Mr. Okunlola challenged the students and staff to respond when the Lord calls for service. "When you go through [a school using the A.C.E. system], you have the opportunity to hear God's voice," he said. "God is always speaking. I'm grateful to God that I was listening. My prayer is that . . . you will be listening, you will hear God's voice, and when he speaks to you, when he calls you, your response will be, 'Here am I, I am ready, Lord.'"

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# Education from God's Perspective

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*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.* Proverbs 22:6

The decision to give your child a Christian education is one of the most important choices you can make. A famous Greek historian showed the high value he placed upon education when he said, "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." Without Biblical character training, education is just "book learning" rather than life preparation. Accelerated Christian Education trains children not only in facts and figures but also gives them the tools they need to become vibrant Christians throughout their lives.

True Biblical education trains children how to see life from God's perspective and live according to His Word. To accomplish this, Accelerated Christian Education takes every opportunity to focus your child's attention on Biblical principles, tying information and applications to Scripture and Biblical characters. The Bible and Biblical principles are not considered a separate course, but they are woven into the very fabric of every PACE. This embedding of Scripture within the content of the PACE text sets the A.C.E. curriculum apart from most other Christian school curriculum.

By examining the basic components of the A.C.E. curriculum, you will see that education in "reading, writing, and arithmetic" is closely linked to the study of God's Word and world.

- ★ Through mathematics your child will come to recognize and appreciate God as the Master-Planner of the universe,

in light of its design and precise, calculable operation.

- ★ Language and its related arts are gifts from God. Through English and Word Building, your child will learn about God's means of communication through the spoken and written Word of God.
- ★ Through the sciences, your child will see the hand of God in Creation and recognize Him as the Master-Designer.
- ★ Through history and its related disciplines, your child will realize that history is His Story.

Just like adults, children learn from a variety of sources—sight, touch, sound, and others. In order to guarantee a solid Biblical foundation for your child, atmosphere must be considered. In the Learning Center, the parents are careful to display only nurturing and uplifting visuals. Many beautiful and thought-provoking character posters and bulletin board borders are available from Accelerated Christian Education. Character is emphasized in every component of the A.C.E. system—from the PACEs to the Learning Center walls.

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## Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.

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*Order my footsteps by thy Word,  
and make my heart sincere;  
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,  
but keep my conscience clear.*  
—Isaac Watts



In every course, in every PACE, your child's focus will be drawn not only to academic instruction but also on how to apply the principles found in the Bible to their daily lives—in the Learning Center, on the playground, in society, and at home. By choosing to use the Accelerated Christian Education system, you have taken the first step to ensure a meaningful and successful future for your most precious possession—your child.

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# CHARACTER COUNTS

## Courteous



A.C.E. defines courteous (hospitable) as “yielding my rights and privileges so the grace of God may flow through me for the benefit of others.” Courteous is one of the 30 new traits of Christ that will be featured in subjects such as sixth-level Bible Reading.

Scripture admonishes us: *Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.* (Romans 12:13) Again we read: *Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.* (1 Peter 3:8)

The prophet Elisha was shown courtesy and true hospitality by a lady and her husband who lived in Shunem. As Elisha passed through their town, this Shunammite lady convinced him to join her and her husband for a meal. He joined them that day and he found himself stopping by their home quite often to enjoy their courtesies and true hospitality. One day the Shunammite lady said to her husband, . . . *Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually. Let us make a little chamber, I pray thee, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither.* (II Kings 4:9, 10) Based on this passage, many churches have created what they call a “prophet’s chamber” for guest preachers, evangelists, and missionaries visiting the churches. It is a way for

the churches to demonstrate hospitality and courtesy to guests visiting the churches.

There are many ways we can demonstrate common courtesies to others:

- Providing food, shelter, and clothes to those going through “rough waters.”
- Opening a door for a lady.
- Saying “Yes, sir” or “No, sir”; “Yes, ma’am” or “No, ma’am.”
- Saying “Thank you” for courtesies shown to you.
- Letting someone else go first in line.
- Not talking with food in your mouth.
- Waiting for your turn to speak and not interrupting others.
- Chewing gum with your mouth closed.



The list could go on and on. THINK! What are some ways YOU can show courtesy to others and demonstrate true hospitality? Remember, COURTEOUS is yielding my rights and privileges so the grace of God may flow through me for the benefit of others. A.C.E. Used with permission of A.C.E.

**“Make us of one heart and mind, gentle, COURTEOUS, and kind, lowly, meek, in thought and word, altogether like our Lord.”**

—Charles Wesley

# Serving God Through A.C.E. Student Programs

Mr. Santiago is an A.C.E. thoroughbred who attended a school in Mexico and earned a Lighthouse Christian Academy diploma through the LCA Dual Enrollment program. In addition to using the curriculum, Mr. Santiago has participated in several Service Adventure trips and student conventions that he affirmed have prepared him for college and beyond.

He shared some of his experiences with A.C.E. and its student programs.



## Student Conventions

Attending student conventions also played a role in his education.

“Through ISC and other student programs, I learned how all the standards and rules I used to complain about are actually needed, helpful, and pleasing before the Lord. It helped me to learn to get along with Believers from all around the world.”

## Educational Assistance

He learned many lessons as an Educational Assistant (EA) as well. His assignment for six months was to serve in a country that restricts Christian education.

“My favorite part of EA was getting to know another culture better. I enjoyed the food, the holidays, but most of all the people’s hearts and their ways of thinking.

“It is indescribable how [God] touched my heart in so many different ways—from meeting missionaries from all around the world to getting to know the local families better, I felt Him everywhere.

As a result of these experiences, Mr. Santiago said he found direction. “God showed me what I really wanted to do for the rest of my life. After volunteering as an EA for a couple of months, the Lord put a burden in my heart to become a teacher, and He also led me to a Christian college. I believe those six months as an EA were a turning point in my life. I am in complete awe at God’s love and care!”

Seeing God work in the lives of others is encouraging. What is your story? Share it with LCA.

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## Using A.C.E.

“I think God used everything He had been teaching me through A.C.E. since first level,” Mr. Santiago said. “I’m glad to say that it’s because of A.C.E. that I have the opportunity to attend college, all the glory goes to God, of course. A.C.E. prepared me academically, spiritually, and morally.”

Through the PACES, he learned how to be a servant and to love others.

## Service Adventure

This desire to be a servant led him to attend three Service Adventure (SA) trips—in Mexico, Peru, and Mexico again.

“I’ve always had a passion or interest for other cultures and countries. I guess I’m an adventurer, yet I knew it was not only about getting on the plane and going to a place. It was about being led by the Lord to go to the right place, in the right time, and be placed by Him with the right people.

“God put that desire in my heart, and even though it was not very clear in the beginning, as I began trusting and praying, He just started to put everything in place in preparation for the adventure He planned for me.”

## Iowa Assessments

LCA will be using the *Iowa Assessments™* standardized tests this year. You will be contacted in the spring regarding the dates and times the tests will be administered.

## LCA Office Hours

**Monday–Friday**  
8:15 a.m.–4:15 p.m.

**LCA Closed**

**October 14:** A.C.E. Christian Educators’ Convention

**November 24, 25:** Thanksgiving  
**December 19–January 1, 2017:** Christmas

## Reenrollment Made Easy!

Reenrolling with Lighthouse Christian Academy is easy and user-friendly. All reenrollments may be done online regardless of payment method. Just go to the Parents’ Link and update the student and parent information as needed.



# LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Lighthouse Christian Academy enrolled several thousand students for the 2015–2016 school year. The 2016 senior class graduated over 500 students represented 46 U.S. states and 62 countries worldwide.

On Friday, June 24, 2016, Lighthouse Christian Academy held its 25th annual graduation in Hendersonville, Tennessee. On-site one hundred and twelve graduates from 26 U.S. states and 11 countries earned their diplomas. The sanctuary was filled with over 1,000 family members, friends, and guests from around the world and across the United States.

Eighty-three graduates received the special recognition of the Christian Service Award, which is given to graduates who served in their local churches, other Christian organizations, or ministries worldwide.

From the opening pledges to the commencement speech given by Mr. Steve Dawson, General Manager of



# CLASS OF 2016

## FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2016



Education Services for Accelerated Christian Education, God's special presence and blessing were evident during the ceremony.

Mr. Duane Howard, Vice President of Accelerated Christian Education, was the master of ceremonies and presented the graduation certificates.

Mrs. Patricia Gilbey, Manager of Lighthouse Christian Academy, presented the graduating class and challenged them to never settle for less than God's best for their lives.

As the students move on to the next chapter in their lives, the LCA staff prays that they will rely on God's guidance, ask God for the wisdom to discern His plan for their lives, never settle for less than God's best, and trust God to work all things together for His good. *ACEM*

**Congratulations  
Class of 2016!**



*Congratulations! Congratulations!*



# Lighthouse Christian Academy

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**Find adventure in service.**

# Mexico

- Service Adventure -

**2017**

June 27  
to  
July 11



For more information visit:  
[www.aceministries.com/service](http://www.aceministries.com/service)