

(Principal) – Welcome and well wishes

Prayer/Chaplain-

LORD God, giver of all gifts and talents, bestower of knowledge of you and the world you created, be with us this evening as we give you glory for the dedication and gifts you have given not only these students, but also their families. We ask that they may always use these things in service to you. WE ask in the name of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen

Advisor

Membership in the Servant Chapter of the Lutheran Junior Honor Association has been earned by the effective demonstration of four qualities, considered to be the cornerstones of the Lutheran Junior Honor Association: scholarship, leadership, service, discipleship. The lighting of these candles represents the desire of the members to keep these qualities alive in their lives. Each quality feeds the others, no one stands alone.

Scholarship:

Ps. 111: 10 “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of all wisdom; all who follow His precepts have good understanding. To Him belongs the praise.”

Scholarship means a commitment to learning. A student is willing to spend the time necessary in reading and study, knowing the lasting benefits of a cultivated mind. We should continue to learn even when formal education has ended, for education ends only with the end of life. Knowledge is one element in life which leads to the highest success, and it can be acquired only through diligence, effort and as scripture says “the fear of the LORD”. Learning furnishes the means by which we interpret and understand the past, and Biblical knowledge the light that illuminates and brings hope to the future. Candidates have the God-given responsibility to develop their minds and expand their knowledge.

Leadership:

Mk. 10: 42-44 “Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them ...Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all.”

Servant Leadership exerts a wholesome influence on the school. In taking the initiative in class and school activities, the real leader strives to set an example that others may emulate. The price of leadership is sacrifice- the willingness to yield one’s personal interests for the interest of others. A leader has self-confidence and will go forward when others hesitate. No matter what power and resources may exist in a group of people, they are ineffectual without the guidance of a wise leader. Leadership is always needed; thus, to lead is a substantive charge to each of our members.

Service:

Mt. 25: 35-36, 40 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.....The King will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these my brothers of mine, you did for me."

Service can be described in various ways. In the routine of the day's work, many opportunities arise to help others. Willingness to work for the benefit of those in need without monetary compensation or recognition is the quality we seek in our members. We are committed to the idea of volunteering our time and abilities to the common good and the creation of a better tomorrow.

Discipleship:

I Tim. 4:7-8 "Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."

Discipleship is an ongoing process. We should never quit learning and growing in our walk with Christ. Just as the New Testament disciples who chose to follow Jesus, we too should continually learn and grow stronger in our personal relationship with Him. Do you desire to lead and disciple others along the way with all that you have already learned and experienced? Part of the process includes:

- Transformation and repentance, making God your priority (Mark 8:34-38)
- Learning the written word of God and living by it with commitment (John 8:31-32)
- Loving, edifying, and serving others as God leads (1 John 3:11-16)
- Focusing on living righteously, being fruitful (John 15:7-10, Galatians 5:22)
- Accountability with godly authority (Hebrews 13:17)

To paraphrase Luke 12:48, it says that to whom much is given, much is required. In other words, those who have received the knowledge of salvation through Jesus are required to share it with others. This is how we add souls to the Kingdom of God. We must be obedient and move from "just playing church to really being a church." Peter tells us to be humble toward others so that we can know the grace of God. We are to humble ourselves to God as well. Humbleness is a vital part of the discipleship all believers are to pursue with love and obedience.