### Welcome to Saving Grace Christian Academy 2022-2023

Dear Saving Grace Christian Academy Parents and Students,

We welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year at Saving Grace Christian Academy. Our mission to provide an **excellent** educational program from a **biblical perspective** for each student, and our faculty and administration are committed to doing that with Christ-honoring excellence.

Our educational program is **exceptional**, which we define as "superior." Saving Grace's superior program starts with our faculty, who do a great job of teaching and impacting the students' lives. We challenge our students toward excellence in all areas of their lives – academically, spiritually, physically, and socially.

Our students exemplify readiness for future success at the next level of their educational journey. What makes Saving Grace Christian Academy unique and a one-of-a-kind school in this area is that our school program is also taught from a **biblical perspective** and is self-paced. Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) is a Christian worldview program that helps students to develop a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We prepare students to look at the world through the lenses of God. We encourage students to utilize their talents and abilities to serve and honor the Lord.

We at Saving Grace Christian Academy are appreciative and grateful that you have allowed us to educate your child. We need you as the parent to partner with us in providing an education that breeds success and glorifies God. We need your prayers, your support and continued involvement in your child's education. We have an open-door communication policy in an attempt to keep you abreast of what's happening in your child's education. Please let us know if we can assist you in any way.

As a means of informing and communicating, SGCA provides you with this handbook, which contains the school's purpose, procedures, and operational policies. The manual provides you with information on many of your questions.

We at Saving Grace Christian Academy look forward to enhancing the lives of your scholars as we embark upon a new and successful school year.

In Christ's Service,

Dr. Dominic Curry Academy President

# Handbook 2022-2023

## Philosophy

#### SAVING GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY MISSION STATEMENT:

Saving Grace Christian Academy endeavors to further God's kingdom by providing a biblical perspective education program. Our goal is to enhance our scholars spiritually, academically, socially, and physically equipped for servant leadership to the glory of God.

#### SAVING GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY VISION STATEMENT:

Saving Grace Christian Academy strives to prepare students for college, life, and eternity.

#### SAVING GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY STATEMENT OF FAITH:

- 1. We believe the Bible and promote the Word of God as written under the inspiration and guidance of the Almighty God. The Bible reveals God's truths and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.
- 2. We believe that all are sinners saved by God's Grace.
- 3. We believe that salvation is given by God alone and received by faith alone, and its merit doesn't depend upon any human.
- 4. We believe that Jesus is the Son of God, and He died to atone for our sins.
- 5. Those who believe in Him may have eternal life.
- 6. We believe that
- 7. Jesus died, rose and will return to judge and received His people.
- 8. We believe the Holy Spirit resides in the people of God.
- 9. We believe our lives should glorify God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

#### SAVING GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY:

#### EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

- 1. God is truth, and He gives the Bible as our supreme and final authority.
- 2. We teach our educational program from a Biblical perspective.
- 3. All scholars are unique, valuable individuals created in God's image. Their gifts are to be used for God's purpose and glory.
- 4. All staff are role models for our scholars.
- 5. We challenge our scholars with exemplar instruction and a variety of activities that lead to a well-rounded education.
- 6. Ownership of students' behavior and integrity lies with each scholar.

- 7. Staff and administration provide a safe, orderly, and structured environment that enhances the scholar's learning.
- 8. Saving Grace Christian Academy will work with families to ensure their children receive the best education. However, we understand that the final responsibility for children's education is at home.
- 9. SGCA commitment to continuous school improvement is essential for students to become confident, self-directed, life-long learners.
- 10. Saving Grace emphasizes spiritual development and academic excellence as a means to glorify God.

# SAVING GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY VALUES & EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES:

#### 1. Christ is an essential identity

1 Corinthians 2:2 – "For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." Saving Grace Christian Academy Scholars:

- Will know, love, rely upon, and rest in Jesus Christ.
- Develop a character that reflects Christ and the Fruit of the Spirits.
- Students will love the church and prepared for Christian service.

#### 2. Very Knowledgeable about the Word of God.

2 Timothy 3:14–17 – "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which can make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and training in righteousness that the man of God may be completely equipped for every good work."

Saving Grace Christian Academy Scholars should:

- Believe that the Bible is valid.
- Believe that God wants them to know him.
- Apply and submit to the will of God for their life.

#### 3. Community of Grace

Titus 2: 11-14 – "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say 'no' to ungodliness and worldly passions and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age. At the same time, we wait for the blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is right."

Saving Grace Christian Academy Scholars:

- Believes that God's grace secures and sustains us.
- Believes that God in His grace moves us to love and forgive others.

#### 4. Academic Excellence

2 Peter 1:3 – "His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to his glory and excellence."

Saving Grace Christian Academy graduates should:

- Be academically prepared for future success in college and life.
- Take the initiative to take responsibility for their education, work, and actions.
- Possess skills to think, communicate, and collaborate in order to accomplish goals, solve problems, and resolve conflict.

#### 5. Preparation for Life

Romans 12: 1-2 (*MSG*)– "So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life- your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life-and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it."

Saving Grace Christian Academy Scholars should:

- Be able to understand and share their Christian beliefs.
- Be equipped to serve God in their community

#### **RELATIONSHIP OF SCHOOL TO FAMILIES**

We believe that according to the Bible, the parents will be held accountable to God for the education of their child. Parents must decide what educational institutions and other services they will use to fulfill that responsibility. However, the responsibility and authority to determine the curriculum at Saving Grace Academy are at the discretion of the administration. We believe that the session will be held accountable for the quality of the education we offer in regard to general and special revelation. While parents may hold us responsible for doing what we say we are going to do, parents will not have the authority to dictate policy or the operation of the school. Our hope that the services and opportunities we provide at SGA can assist parents in fulfilling their responsibility for the education of their child.

We also believe that the parent will be held accountable to discipline and train their child up in the way they should go. While our staff and faculty, most of whom are parents themselves, will be sympathetic and understanding of this responsibility, we as a school and faculty will not assume the role of parent. We will implement a school disciplinary policy for a Christian community in the raising of a child. However, the school can only be responsible for the implementation of policy, not for the child's adherence or disobedience to the plan and rules of the school. We are a school, and we expect that the parents do everything in their power to maximize the time a teacher has to teach. The parent disciplines their child and instructs them in proper school behavior so that the teacher can spend their time teaching. Therefore, when school rules are not followed disciplinary actions are left to the discretion of SGCA administration.

#### SCHOOL BRANDING- MASCOT, COLORS, AND CREST

The school mascot is the eagle. The school colors are navy blue, burgundy and white. The use of school colors, school name, school crest, and the eagle head must only be with school permission and according to the school board approved designs and brands. Any additional colors, crests, or designs used in association with SGA Christian Academy needs the expressed permission of the SGA administration.

#### STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Students of Saving Grace Christian Academy (SGCA) are expected to refrain from talking about or engaging in such activities as cheating, swearing, the use of worldly slang, smoking, gambling, bullying, drinking alcoholic beverages, using narcotics, use of profanity, immorality, or those philosophies which are not Christian in their approach.

Students who participate in such activities are subject to suspension, and possible expulsion. Students are expected to act in an orderly, respectful manner at all times, maintaining Christian standards of courtesy, kindness, politeness, language, attitudes, morality, and honesty. Students must agree to strive cheerfully towards unquestionable character in dress, conduct, and attitude. Students are expected to maintain their testimony even in the area of Social Media such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, etc.

When considering standards of conduct, the question that must be answered is, "what are the limits of the school's responsibility/authority?" Saving Grace Christian Academy limits the boundaries of its authority to the campus/school activities. This is not to say that conduct outside of these limits will not affect our decision regarding student enrollment. The opposite is true. Conduct off campus will affect our decision, but the parents are responsible for their children when they are not under the supervision of the school.

#### ADMISSIONS POLICY

Saving Grace Christian Academy admits students of any race, color and national/ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded the students at the Academy. It does not in any way discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national/ethnic origin in administering its educational policies and other school-related programs. Parents, however, must understand and support the purpose of Saving Grace Christian Academy; and students must be agreeable to the standards and objectives of this Academy. Students must attend Sunday morning, Sunday evening and mid-week services at a church with similar faith.

Students who are admitted from other schools to SGCA must have a conduct record that is average or better. All new students are accepted on a two-month probationary status. At the end of the two months, an evaluation will be made to determine proper and continued placement. SGCA is not equipped to accept severely mental disabled or problematic children. SGCA maintains the right to refuse admittance to anyone.

#### **ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES:**

- 1. After diagnostic test is taken, scores are received and revied by the Academy.
- 2. Parents are then issued School Enrollment Packet consisting of all necessary forms and school handbook.
- 3. After reading thoroughly all forms and Handbook (both students and parents), the parents call the office for an enrollment interview. When coming to the interview, all forms must be completed and signed. (Both parents, and all prospective students are expected to attend this interview.)
- 4. Parents will be notified within one week of acceptance or denial.
- 5. All pre-enrollment fees must be paid prior to completion of enrollment

#### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Saving Grace Christian Academy neither solicits nor receives any state or federal assistance.

Saving Grace Christian Academy operates on tuition, gifts and support of its enrollees. It is therefore necessary that all accounts be paid when due.

Tuition is a yearly fee. For the convenience of parents, it may be paid in full or in ten monthly payments – September to June.

Payments are due on Mondays or at the designated dates established on the SGCA financial agreement form. Report cards may be held if the account becomes outstanding during any grading period, and satisfactory arrangements have not been made with the school. Failure to meet financial obligations or make satisfactory arrangements will be considered as sufficient grounds for suspension or dismissal.

#### **TUITION AND FEES**

SGCA is a part of a non-profit corporation operating on a faith principle through Charles County Board of Education. The tuition is kept low to make Christian education available to those who could not normally afford private schooling but who desire a Christ-centered education for their children. The following Tuition Schedule does not meet the bottom-line needs to operate a Christian school. Therefore, it is our prayer that, in order to keep our tuition rates low, many of God's people who believe in what we are doing will feel impressed to donate to this ministry. All gifts are tax deductible; tuition and other fees are not.

## ACTIVE, TITHING MEMBER TUITION

(10 month plan)

Per Child \$4,500 or \$450/month or \$125 weekly

NON-MEMBER TUITION (10-month plan)

\$7,500 or \$750/month or \$208 weekly

The 10-month plan breaks down the payment over the entire year. The first payment is due on the Monday after Parent Orientation and the rest of the payments are due in from September through June.