

GIVING THANKS FOR OUR HERITAGE AND TRADITIONS



NOVEMBER 2021

GCA LION PRIDE



GRANVILLE
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY



A NOTE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

It's hard to believe that we will be celebrating Thanksgiving in a few weeks! One of my joys each day is to join with our elementary students for Morning Assembly. At the start of this new month, I shared a few verses during Morning Assembly from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18--Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

I've challenged the elementary students to share what they are thankful for. We've heard things like God, Jesus, weekends, moms, house, video games, friends, and pets. Children often have a wonderful way of seeing the little things that adults often miss in the craziness of life.

I am thankful to be at a school that promotes service. We have many opportunities to serve people in our community. Just last month, students brought in over 1,100 socks to go to the Look Up Center. This month, our National Honor Society is gathering food for their annual service project of Thanksgiving Baskets. They are planning to have enough food for 100 baskets. These baskets are prayed over by the elementary and middle school students and then delivered by our high school student body to those in need. We have the privilege of being the Hands and Feet of Jesus to those in our community! What an amazing way to serve!

Sometimes when life gets hard, it's difficult to think of things to be thankful for. Let me challenge you to think of 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 and have joy, pray continually, and give thanks in ALL circumstances. God Bless YOU this Thanksgiving season!

Jayme Diener,
Elementary Principal



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Our Veterans Day assembly was held this past Thursday to honor those who have sacrificed many aspects of their lives for the sake of our freedom. All of our students, K-12, gathered in the Worship Center along with 30+ veterans and over 100 family members and friends as our High School Student Council members led our assembly. Our students and guests had the opportunity to hear from Pete Flavin, this year's keynote speaker. Our elementary students sang a tribute to the armed forces and recognized those who served in each branch of the military. A special thank you goes to our High School Student Council for their hard work in planning this assembly and preparing and serving the meal for our veterans and their guests!





My favorite part of Thanksgiving is all of the amazing smells! From the fall candles burning to the smell of dinner cooking, it gives the whole Thanksgiving vibe for me!

-- Ava Moore,
8th Grade

My favorite Thanksgiving tradition is the giant nap I take every year after stuffing myself full of turkey and mashed potatoes!

-- Landen Pound,
10th Grade

One of my favorite traditions is that my extended family sing the Doxology (in 4-part harmony) before we eat. We grew up singing the blessing as a child and have continued all throughout my childhood. The tradition has been passed now to my own family. My kids ask to sing the blessing during mealtimes, and while we don't have the harmonies quite down yet, it makes my heart happy knowing that they want to carry on the tradition!

-- Mrs. Diener

My favorite Thanksgiving traditions are spending time with family. Taking the time to cook and eat as a family always makes for sweet memories. My two favorite foods to make and eat are probably sweet potato casserole and pumpkin donuts! We also play basketball or a fun game which can be very competitive sometimes, but that's what makes memories. By the end of the day, we start up the Christmas music and prepare to go Black Friday shopping. In all, the day is filled with joy and thankfulness for all our many blessings.

-- Miss Potts

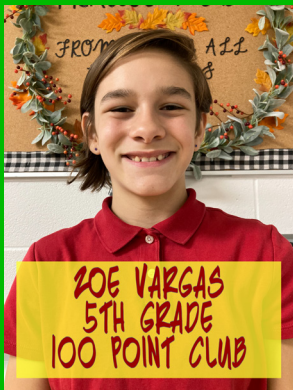
My family likes to play card games and board games all night after we eat Thanksgiving dinner. My favorite game is a card game called push and it's so much fun!

-- Kendrick Claffey,
5th Grade

My parents and siblings and I always spend Thanksgiving away at a cabin in Hocking Hills. Instead of cooking a big meal there, we always go to eat at the Glen Laurel as a family on Thanksgiving day.

-- Alex Cannone,
12th Grade

**Congratulations to our new
Accelerated Reading 100
Point Club Inductee!**



I look forward to going to my Grandma's house every year and getting to play with all of my cousins!

-- Lauren Dusthimer,
2nd Grade

We always host our entire family for Thanksgiving at our house. It makes it very busy getting everything ready, but then we finally get to eat all the food—which is by far the best part.

-- Noah Tice,
10th Grade

My favorite part of Thanksgiving is having my cousins over! One year, we jumped so hard on the trampoline that my cousin bruised her ribs!

-- Ava Dean,
8th Grade

My favorite part of Thanksgiving is eating my Grandma's cookies and blondies and getting to see the cows. After dinner, my sister and I always go down the slide together.

-- Lindy Tehua,
1st Grade

I love when all of my family gets together for Thanksgiving! A tradition we have been doing for years is to play games after a yummy meal! Win or lose, it is always a great time filled with joy and laughter!! A new tradition was added last year as well...after food and games, we all helped my parents get out their Christmas decorations! It is great to share in the memories of the decorations and be helping out the family all together!! Happy Thanksgiving!!

-- Mrs. Chetnik

All of our extended family lives out of state, so we love to find local friends from church and the community that do not have a special place to celebrate Thanksgiving and invite them over. We have created many years of large Thanksgiving gatherings with local friends. It is always fun to see what the weather is on the special day--we have celebrated by playing in the snow, taking hikes in the woods, playing airsoft battles, etc.

-- Mrs. Dufresne

My family eats a huge meal together and then we all go out into the backyard for target practice. It's our yearly tradition and my favorite!

-- Miss Lewis

I LOVE TURKEY! I could eat it all year long and every single day! After we eat turkey, we all go downstairs and play in the basement

-- Colin Campbell
1st Grade



Christmas Chapel
Friday, December 17
1:30 PM

All K-12 students will be participating and we invite parents and families to attend!

JOIN US IN WORSHIPPING TOGETHER AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST AND THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION THAT HE BRINGS!



In **Kindergarten**, history is part of our Social Studies/Science curriculum, and our goal is to use their natural curiosity to help them learn more about themselves and the world they live in. We talk about and explore holidays, heroism, and personal history! In kindergarten, we write thank you notes to veterans for Veterans Day as we discuss what being a veteran means. We participate in Operation Christmas Child as we learn the true meaning of Christmas (Our Greatest Gift! Jesus!), and all that was given to us for us to give to others (again, Jesus!) And everyday, we strengthen our concepts of time and our place in it during calendar time. We will also do a lesson where we talk about Past, Present, and Future, and the children will have a chance to make and share a timeline of their lives.

– Mrs. Waterer

In **Kindergarten**, the children begin to form concepts about the world beyond their own classroom and communities. We do this through Scholastic's *Let's Find Out* magazine, developed just for Kindergarten students. Each month has a different focus, such as Personal Responsibility, Setting Goals, Traditions, Economics, and History/Government.

We had the perfect opportunity to learn about the world beyond ourselves during our chapel time with Pastor Fredrick, a visiting pastor from Kenya. After he shared with us, we discussed how our everyday life is very different from the everyday life for children in Fredrick's village. We also talked about things that might be the same and things that were very different. We decided that we should

be praying for them every day and have added a picture to our prayer wall of Africa/Kenya to remind us to pray for them. We celebrated that God loves us all no matter where we live in the world!! The realization that children in other parts of the world live very differently, made us think about being thankful for our many blessings!

Here is what we are thankful for....

"Of what I know" (Emmitt)

"Our whole entire family" (Emerson)

"Our food" (Eizon)

"Water" (Caleb)

"Our Clothes" (Tilly)

"God" (Hannah)

"Toys" (Noah)

"Our School" (Mrs. Chetnik)

"Sleepovers at my grandparents" (Evelyn)

"Sharing toys" (Emma)

"Animals and Spiders" (Katelyn)

– Mrs. Chetnik



In **First Grade**, One of my favorite activities that I do with my first grade class is a financial lesson where we talk about money, needs, and wants. I find it very important for students to realize at a very young age the importance of financial responsibility. I invite two representatives from Park National Bank into our classroom to

discuss money, banks, savings, and giving. These representatives also read books, share ideas, and give out piggy banks to each student. I give each student a sheet that is divided into three sections, "Save, Spend, Give." Each student is given 10 dollars (fake money), and then asked to divide up their money between these three things. We talk about our responsibility to tithe and give back, but we also talk about saving and spending money. I also have the students decide what they can do to earn money through chores, selling items, and saving birthday/Christmas money. One year the kids saved their money all year and then reported back at the end of the year to let me know how much money they had each saved.

Another project near and dear to my heart that goes along with our social studies book is collecting money each year for items in the Samaritan's Purse catalog. We discuss how these people have nothing and that we can make a difference for them. The students vote on the items they would like to buy and then we start collecting. In the past, we have purchased trees, a goat, blankets, gym equipment, Bibles and many other items. I love that the kids realize that they can make a difference in someone's life, even though they are young!

First grade also enjoys participating in the Veterans Day activities every November. We make cards and pictures for the Veteran's and help put on a small concert for them too!

We have fun learning about our country and honoring those who served!

– Mrs. Lowery

In **Second Grade** Social Studies, we touch a little on each of the content standard areas that they will master later on in their education. Throughout the year, they learn map skills, government and economics, but the overarching theme of our curriculum is community—How communities work and rely on each other, how students can be a part of their community, and the characteristics of citizenship. Every new school year, I like to start with some community building activities, not just for the kids to get to know each other, but to begin to learn how to work as a team to accomplish a goal. Students are given a large, challenging puzzle to complete together. As they work, we talk about the importance of each person's puzzle piece, we can't finish it without each student doing their job. You will often hear me say "do your job" when students need a reminder to do their part. We all have a job to do in the classroom, at school, at work, in society and most importantly as a community of believers!

– Mrs. Stoolfire



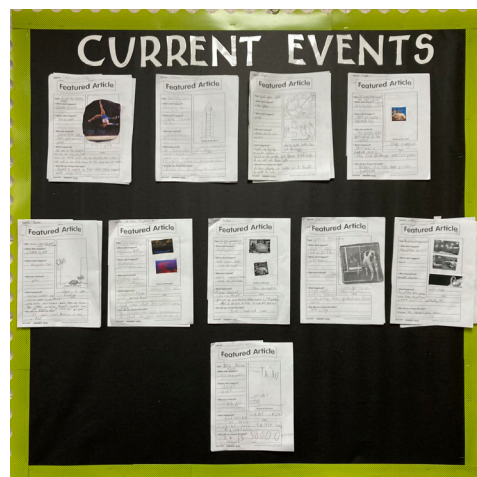
Do you need a vacation? A short get-away? If so, check out the latest island designs from the GCA **Third Grade!** As a follow up to our unit on map skills, the third graders created their own Island: Barefoot Island. Students were tasked with using only symbols on their design, and creating a map key using the features that were covered in our unit. Each island had to have basic necessities. The creativity of this class is amazing!! There were islands that were environmentally conscious with only camping allowed and bicycles/walking as the primary mode of transportation. Other islands were futuristic with hoverboards and helipads. Students shared their

personal interests in their designs, and not only showcased their knowledge of subject matter, but also gave us a glimpse of their ideal environment.

The third grade curriculum covers history, geography, map skills, citizenship, government, and economics. After reading and learning about each concept, a hands-on activity allows each student to show what they know. A favorite activity during our government unit is when the students are divided into the three branches of government. The students in the Legislative Branch are allowed to write their own laws. Those laws must be passed by both the "House" and the "Senate." If passed, the laws are sent to the Executive Branch. If passed again, they are reviewed by the Judicial Branch. Any laws introduced by the Third Grade Legislature, approved by the Executive Branch, and justified by the Judicial Branch will go into effect for the third quarter. It is fun to be in Third Grade!

– Mrs. Rosinski

In **Fourth Grade**, Social Studies and Science are not taught simultaneously. This allows us time to really dig deeper into content. Fourth Graders focus on Ohio concepts in economics, history, government, and geography. As part of our Social Studies curriculum, we discuss current events happening in our world. Every other Friday, students bring in a kid-friendly news article from a newspaper, current magazine, or approved website. They write a summary about their article answering the 5 W questions (Who, What, When, Where, and Why) and then act as reporter as they share their article with the class. Some of the articles have



accompanying videos that we watch and discuss as well. We post the articles for the week in the classroom for classmates to enjoy. This has been a favorite class activity as we've learned about interesting animals, space exploration, amazing inventions, and so much more.

– Mrs. Diener

In **Fifth Grade**, we start off the year learning about geography and economics. The students love watching a video series called "Hershel's World of Economics." In the video there is a puppet called Hershel and a Ventriloquist who teaches the students about economics.



It is a very funny and engaging way to see how our economic system works. Later, we move on to learning about the Early Americans. One thing the students love is watching the movie *Pocahontas*. During our Early American unit, we learn that religion played a very important role in the early American's daily life and culture. In fifth grade, we compare and contrast the worldview of the early Americans with a Christian Biblical worldview. When we watch the movie, we pick out scenes that show how the worldviews differ. Later, we move on to the early American settlements. Students are taken back in time and put themselves in the shoes of colonists who came from various countries. The students work in groups to try to decide what would be the best colony for them to settle in based on the skills they have in their home country.

– Mrs. Exline

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES

Sixth Grade History is an excellent source of information to contrast Ancient World cultures with Biblical truth. The Heritage Studies on Ancient civilizations compares and contrasts this truth. The students are asked questions about what they read to evaluate their understanding of what other ancient cultures believed and what Christianity teaches.

History is also an excellent way to teach skills that the students are learning to help students transition into increased rigor that they will encounter during middle school, building on the knowledge and skills learned in elementary school. They are learning to think historically in regards to early civilizations, places and regions, and are beginning to understand the different cultures and social systems that have brought us where we are today. They are evaluating how some things haven't changed that much, and also how some things have changed drastically.

The students' vocabulary is increasing with each chapter covered. They frequently have challenges as to who knows their vocabulary by standing in front of class and displaying their knowledge. They are also learning

how to present information in a format that will be easily understood. The students enjoy engaging in discussions and giving their feedback on topics discussed. The projects are varied, depending upon the size and location of the class. History can be fun and that is my continuing goal.

– Miz Parker

In **Seventh Grade History**, we have made great strides in our historical timeline of events. We are entering the Renaissance period and discussing the Reformation—which is fitting as October 31 just passed on the calendar. We are incorporating study skills, Quizlet, team review competitions, and Kahoot. We are working on sharing “real life” stories from different areas as we study them. Our class discussions often take us on “soap box” discussions. This is what I call tangents or additional related information that goes deeper into the topic or how the topic may be related to items in real life today. As we continue to move forward in our world studies and advance in our timeline years, the ability to include modern day applications will increase. When we are able to relate the topics to modern day items or events or topics, it helps the history material come alive for the class.

– Mrs. Dufresne

Our focus in **Eighth Grade History**, is to study how the colonists established and maintained freedom, equality, individualism, and growth in Colonial America. Throughout this year, students will get the opportunity to review details of their reading through

discussion, taking notes, working on activity sheets, reading first-person accounts of events, and answering questions about the things they've read. We discuss the details, ask questions, and reinforce a Bible Worldview of our historical roots of the USA. As we progress through the school year, students will have the opportunity to view pictures of historical landmarks, discuss their adventures to historical sites, and share about their family heritage as it pertains to our discussions. History is a discussion and research-based subject. Studying, reading first-person journal entries and recollection of events, and doing projects on important individuals give students a greater understanding of the events that took place in Colonial America. As our year concludes, we'll have the opportunity to watch part of an amazing documentary created by Ken Burns about the Civil War.

– Mrs. Johnson

HOMESCHOOL AND GCA CHORALE CONCERT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6
7:00 PM

SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
42 E. CHURCH ST.
NEWARK, OH 43055

COLLEGE INFO NIGHT



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22
6:00-8:00 PM

ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS IN
GRADES 6-12 ARE INVITED TO
ATTEND

My favorite part about teaching **High School History** is getting my students to “think historically,” putting themselves in the shoes of the people that we study, to think about what it would have been like to live through different time periods in history. We often read primary sources in class as a way to help students get into this historical mindset. From helping my students understand the significant change that landmark documents such as the English Bill of Rights, or the American Declaration of Independence brought to people of their time, to seeing how journalists were able to spur reform through their writings, such as with Jacob Riis’s “How the Other Half Lives” and Lincoln Steffens’s “The Shame of the Cities.” Through writings such as these, students are able to see both the struggles that everyday citizens faced and learn how some of these issues were resolved.

There is never a shortage of topics for discussion in **Government** class! I love teaching students about the foundations of our government, then watching them think through current events based on that knowledge. Government students learn about the wide array of political ideas held in our country when they choose a minor party to research and present to the class. They always find that some



of these parties are a little whacky and will not ever make a major impact on our country, but they also find that some of these parties have ideas that could have a positive impact on our country.



Geography students learn that there is much more to geography than maps. While they do study maps to learn the location of continents and countries, they also learn how the climate and physical geography of different regions affects the development of culture therein. They learn that geography relates to a wide array of other fields of study.

In **Political Behavior**, students learn how American citizens interact with and affect their government. One of my favorite projects in this class is when the students create their own minor political party. Students have the option of creating a party based on real-world issues or school issues. They then develop a platform for their party, and even create a political ad. I love seeing the ideas that the students come up with!

I love teaching the variety of social studies classes that I do. I not only get to watch students grow and mature as I have them in class from their freshman to their senior year, but I also get to see them realize the connections that the social studies classes have to each other. Students learn that events in world history have affected events in American history, and that events from both World and American Histories have shaped the foundation of our government and how it is running today.

– Mrs. Marzulli

*Are you ready to
Mingle & Jingle?*

HIGH SCHOOL WINTER PARTY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

6:00 PM

GCA ATHLETICS



Soccer All-League Awards

Joe Benvie
Jayden Leija
Landen Pound

Honorable Mention

Brendon Austin
Hannah Hubbard

Volleyball All-League Awards

Chloe Gray

Honorable Mention

Megan Austin
Rachel Hill

Cross Country All-League Awards

Meghan Exline
Luke Holt
Dominic Sprankle

Runner of the Year (All-MOCAL)

Meghan Exline



Soccer GCA Awards

Most Valuable Player: Jayden Leija
Most Improved: Gabe White
Coach's Award: Joe Benvie
Lion Award: Brendon Austin

Volleyball GCA Awards

Most Valuable Player: Rachel Hill
Most Improved: Keira Frank
Coach's Award: Chloe Gray
Lion Award: Madison Holbert

Cross Country GCA Awards

Most Valuable Player (Girls): Meghan Exline
Most Valuable Player (Boys): Noah Tice
Most Improved: Danielle White
Coach's Award: Natalia Locke
Lion Award: Dominic Sprankle

MS Volleyball GCA Awards

Most Valuable Player (Girls): Jasmine Easterday
Most Improved: Maya Bailey
Coach's Award: Rebecca Bates
Lion Award: Jacey Snyder

MS Cross Country GCA Awards

Most Valuable Player (Girls): Eliana Jackson
Most Valuable Player (Boys): Jacob Latshaw
Most Improved: Kaitlyn Wilson
Coach's Award: Sierra Petry
Lion Award: Caleb Lilly

MS Golf GCA Awards

Most Valuable Player: AJ Lear
Most Improved: Zander Ault
Coach's Award: Hailey Smith
Lion Award: Jordan Stump

LITTLE LIONS BASKETBALL

FOR BOTH GCA
STUDENTS
AND FRIENDS
IN GRADES 2-5

COST: \$60

**\$80 IF REGISTERING
AFTER JANUARY 1**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8 - 9:00-10:30 AM
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14 - 6:30-8:00 PM
SATURDAY, JANUARY 22 - 9:00-10:30 AM
SATURDAY, JANUARY 29 - 9:00-10:30 AM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4 - 6:30-8:00 PM
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12 - 9:00-10:30 AM
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19 - 9:00-10:30 AM

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& payment to the finance
office to reserve your little
lion's spot!

5TH STREET GYM
9 N. 5TH STREET, NEWARK, OHIO 43055

DECEMBER

A LOOK AT THE MONTH AHEAD

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
	OCC Trip				5:30 MSGB 7:00 MSBB	4:00 VGB 7:00 VBB
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	7:00 GCA and Homeschool Chorale Concert	5:30 MSGB 6:00 VGB 7:00 MSBB 7:30 VBB	Lunch Ordering Opens		Elementary Spiritual Renewal Day 5:30 MSGB 6:00 VGB 7:00 MSBB 7:30 VBB	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	6:00 VGB 7:30 VBB	5:30 MSGB 7:00 MSBB	MS/HS Semester Exams Lunch Ordering Closes		1:30 Christmas Chapel 6:00 HS Winter Party	12:00 VGB 2:00 VBB
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Christmas Break	6:00 VGB 6:00 VBB				
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	Christmas Break	6:00 VGB 7:00 VBB				

VBB - Varsity Boys Basketball
 VGB - Varsity Girls Basketball
 MSBB- Middle School Boys Basketball
 MSGB - Middle School Girls Basketball

Additional Information

11/29 - 12/2 - Operation Christmas Child Trip to Charlotte, NC - Juniors/Seniors

12/6 - GCA and Homeschool Chorale Concert - 7:00 PM at Second Presbyterian Church, 42 E. Church Street, Newark

12/8 - Lunch Ordering opens

12/10 - Elementary Spiritual Renewal Day

12/15 - Lunch Ordering closes

MS/HS Semester Exams - The exam schedule can be found in the weekly email announcements

12/17 - Christmas Chapel - 1:30 PM - All K-12 students will participate and all families are invited to attend!

High School Winter Party - 6:00 PM

12/18 - 1/2 - CHRISTMAS BREAK - Classes will resume on Monday, January 3

GCA ATHLETICS

Varsity Boys Basketball

- 12/4** 7:00 PM -- @ Madison Christian -- 3565 Bixby Road, Groveport, OH 43125
- 12/7** 7:30 PM -- vs. Liberty Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/10** 7:30 PM -- vs. Tree of Life Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/13** 7:30 PM-- vs. Northside Christian-- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/18** 2:00 PM -- vs. East Knox -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/21** 6:00 PM -- vs. Fairfield Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/28** 7:00 PM -- @ Millersport -- 11850 Lancaster St, Millersport, OH 43046

Varsity Girls Basketball

- 12/4** 4:00 PM -- @ Madison Christian -- 3565 Bixby Road, Groveport, OH 43125
- 12/7** 6:00 PM -- vs. Liberty Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/10** 6:00 PM -- vs. Tree of Life Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/13** 6:00 PM-- vs. Northside Christian-- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/18** 12:00 PM -- @ Utica -- 260 Jefferson St, Utica, OH 43080
- 12/21** 6:00 PM -- @ Franklin Heights -- 1001 Demorest Rd, Columbus, Ohio 43204
- 12/28** 6:00 PM -- vs. Northridge -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055

Middle School Boys Basketball

- 12/3** 7:00 PM -- vs. Madison Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/7** 7:00 PM -- @ Liberty Christian -- 10447 Refugee Road Etna, OH 43062
- 12/10** 7:00 PM -- @ Tree of Life Christian -- 935 Northridge Rd Columbus, OH 43224
- 12/14** 7:00 PM-- vs. Northside Christian-- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055

Middle School Girls Basketball

- 12/3** 5:30 PM -- vs. Madison Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055
- 12/7** 5:30 PM -- @ Liberty Christian -- 10447 Refugee Road Etna, OH 43062
- 12/10** 5:30 PM -- @ Tree of Life Christian -- 935 Northridge Rd Columbus, OH 43224
- 12/14** 5:30 PM-- vs. Northside Christian-- 5th Street Gym, Newark OH 43055