

Board of Christian Education Center Stage

Annual CME Convocation
Louisville, KY

George W. Coleman, Jr.

History of Christian Education

- God created humanity in God's image gave power and dominion over creation (knowledge with ability to manage)
- God's first “show and tell” educational training session – “Do not eat of the tree in the midst of the Garden”
- God talk's to Cain “a teachable moment”
- Enoch “walked” with God (“learned behaviour”)

History of Christian Education

- God's “skilled learning” session with Norah
- God's “life long learning” program for Abraham
- God's “inter-generational” learning program (Abraham, Issac and Jacob)
- Moses enrolls in God's leadership program
- God established Mt. Sinia University (a learning by doing experience for the entire family)
- Joshua head-of-household/teacher (“as for me and my house we will serve the Lord”)

History of Christian Education

- Solomon combines God's knowledge, wisdom and practical applications
- God's prophecy and religious – learning from failures – try again
- God anoints “The Jesus' School” - discipleship learning by following
- God anoints the Holy Spirit – professor in residence of “The Jesus' School”
- Acts of the Apostles – home schooling “The Jesus' School” from house to house

History of Christian Education

- 300 A.D. - Church Fathers Period – learning through coral reading and reciting of creeds (Gloria Patri)
- 1100 - Medeival Period – the offical establishment of Christian education schools –
Monestaries –

- 1516 - Protestant Reformation – from schools to individual study – everyone need to learn how to read (the Word) the Bible – Guttenberg's printing press

History of Christian Education

- 1516 - Protestant Reformation – from schools to individual study – everyone need to learn how to read (the Word) the Bible – Guttenberg's printing press – Sunday School and Vacation Bible Schools started

History of Christian Education

- 1670 Pilgrims taught their children the Bible
- 1624 Virginia General Assembly rules Indian children be educated in religion and civilization
- 1636 Harvard College school to train preachers

- 1642 Compulsory School law children could read their Bible
- 1670 Indian Christian Church founded on Martha's Vineyard to educate Indians

History of Christian Education

- 1690 First New England Primer published Alphabet Bible verses
- 1693 William and Mary College prepare students for the ministry
- 1699 Yale founded by 10 ministers

- 1717 Cotton Mather starts classes for Negroes and Indians to teach the 3 “R's”
- 1744 Samuel Thomas opens school for Negroes in South Carolina

History of Christian Education

- 1745 - Methodism – John Wesley – Christian education through spiritual formation and small group nurture
- 1746 Princeton founded - Presbyterians
- 1764 Brown

University Baptist
“Great Awakening”

- 1770 Quakers open school for Negroes Philadelphia
- 1781 Congress approves purchase of Bibles for schools
- 1787 Congress requirements for statehood establish schools “to teach religion, morality, and knowledge

History of Christian Education

CME Schools

- 1844 Supreme Court rules that schools are to teach Christianity using the Bible
- 1867 Morehouse and Howard founded to ex-slaves becomes teachers and preachers
- 1870 CME Church founded

1874 Central

- 1879 Homer College, LA
- 1882 “Paine Principle” white Methodists help support CME schools, GA
- 1882 Lane College, TN
- 1883 Haygood Seminary, AR

- 1886 Sunday School

History of Christian Education CME Schools

- 1894 Texas College, TX
- 1894 Miles College, AL
- 1905 Indian Mission School of Boley, OK
- 1906 Mississippi Industrial College, MS
- 1906 Holsey Industrial Academy, GA
- 1908 Harriet E. Holsey Normal and Industrial Institute, GA
- 1908 Williams Industrial College, AR
- 1909 Hartwell Institute of Hartwell, GA
- People's High School, MS

History of Christian Education

- Edward's High School, AL
- Jackson Colored High School, TX
- South Boston, High School, VA
- 1914 Department of Education – recommend institutions for connectional recognition. Bishop
- 1925 Tennessee governor signs forbidding evolution in public schools

History of Christian Education CME Church

1934 Department of Religious Education –
Sunday School and Epworth League – Bishop
B. Julian Smith comprehensive program of
Christian Education -Sunday Journal for
teachers, leadership training schools
theological training of preachers developed
“Youth Jubilees” into Connectinal Youth
Conference

History of Christian Education

- 1948 Supreme Court rules time for prayer public schools unconstitutional
- 1962 Supreme Court rules reciting a state written prayer public schools unconstitutional
- 1963 Supreme Court rules individual prayer and Bible reading public schools unconstitutional

History of Christian Education

- 1965 Supreme Court rules a child may pray public schools no ones knows and lips do not move
- 1980 Supreme Court rules Ten Commandments posted public schools unconstitutional
- 1985 Supreme Court rules requiring
- 1992 Supreme Court rules clergy offering prayer public schools graduations unconstitutional
- 2000 Supreme Court rules student initiated or student led prayer public schools football games unconstitutional

Department of Christian Education

1. Develop and promote the program of Christian nurture according to needs of local congregation and community
2. Organize and administer the educational ministry and activities of church Sunday Church School Christian Youth Fellowship Young Adult Council Vacation Bible School weekday schools training classes of new members Continuing education classes and institutes for church officers, boards and auxiliaries, etc

3. Church History

Department of Christian Education

5. Use literature issued or approved by the Department of Christian Education
6. Conduct Vacation Bible School
7. Sponsor Promotion Day
8. Effective ministry to children 1-11
9. Resource for educational ministry to Adult Work
10. Connectional Youth and Young Adult Week
11. Special Days
12. Organize Committee on Scouting
13. Prepare Budget

Department of Christian Education

Dr. Carmical Crutchfield

Christian Education is
discipleship

Through small groups

Formation - spiritual –
faith Holy Spirit

Nurture – educational
ministry

Leadership – resources
problem solving
decision making

Mission – participate in
the world

Christian Education Meaning

Christian – to be like
Christ

Education – knowledge,
skills

Quadrennial Theme: An "Essential Church": Poised for 21st Century Ministry

Teach – Discipleship

Rethink and recommit to
the church school

Envision the Church's
teaching ministry as
lifelong process

Creative a more
effective nurturing
fellowship

Intentional

Systematic

Sustained