

# **FIRST UNITED METHODIST SCHOOL and CHILD CARE CENTER STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY & EDUCATIONAL GOALS and OBJECTIVES**

## **Statement of Philosophy**

First United Methodist School adopts the historic Christian view of life as presented in the Bible. Since God created and sustains everything through His Son, Jesus Christ, the world and life are God-centered and should glorify Him. Humans, being sinners by nature and choice, cannot glorify or know God apart from being regenerated through personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior by faith. The total process of education, therefore, should seek to restore the student to a position of true knowledge, righteousness, and holiness in Christ by relating the whole person to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically. God's truth must be integrated into every area of school life. Such education is primarily the parents' responsibility, and the school functions as an extension of the home in providing this education.

First United Methodist School believe that all children are a gift from God (Matt. 19:14), and are created in the image of God (Ps. 119:73; Col. 1:16). Therefore, our stewardship response is to provide a wholesome and Christian environment by nurturing the children through the teaching of the Scriptures, by providing Christian role models, and by assisting them to develop intellectually, socially, emotionally, spiritually, and physically as young Christians (Deut. 6:4-9). Our church seeks to treat each student as a special child of God, encouraging mutual respect. The school has a traditional curriculum taught from a Christian perspective, which includes a weekly chapel service and required daily Bible class at all age levels (a graded course in the elementary and middle schools).

## **Educational Goals**

- To provide opportunity for the student to become a well-balanced, Christ-like person through proper mental, physical, spiritual, and social development (Luke 2:52). The cultivation of the Christ-like life is of primary importance. The aim of the school is to bring the student to that point where Christ is at the center of every area of his/her life. The hope is that the indwelling Christ will dominate, govern, and control whatever the student does spiritually, psychologically, physically, or socially.
- To encourage within the student the development of wholesome Christian attitudes, appreciation, and values. To deepen and broaden the student's life and to bring radiance and vitality, it will require development of the intangibles of life. Love, respect, reverence, discipline, and cooperation are just a few of these necessary items.
- To broaden the student's understanding of the world in which he/she lives through a Christ-centered educational program. Since all truth belongs to God regardless of the means of manifestation, it can be effectively integrated through Biblical truth. A deliberate effort will therefore be made to allow the Lord Jesus Christ and the Scriptures to be the integrating factor of our educational program.
- To instill within the student a sense of responsibility for continuous spiritual and intellectual growth. The goal of this school is that students will continue to grow both spiritually and intellectually after they leave our school. We believe we should lay a foundation of character qualities, Biblical principles, and mental development through which a student can build a life to glorify God in whatever vocation God leads him/her to pursue.

## **Educational Objectives**

- Offer an instructional program to meet the academic needs of each child
- Encourage clear, logical, and independent thinking
- Promote the mastery of the basic skills of communication, mathematics, science, social studies, art, music, computer science, and physical education
- Develop a sense of responsibility as a citizen
- Provide opportunities for participation in wholesome recreational activities
- Develop wholesome Christian attitudes and values for continual spiritual and intellectual growth

## **Mission Statement**

To instill within the student/child a sense of responsibility for continuous spiritual and intellectual growth in a nurturing environment.