

# Middle School Profile

## Middle School Teachers

- Shari Darrith – Math and Spanish
- Stephanie Ramage – ELA and Social Studies
- Mark Kok – Geography
- Nancy Rivers – Science and Spanish

## Middle School Model

- Each class has a homeroom teacher.
- Students keep their textbooks and supplies in a locker.
- Students rotate between various teachers who specialize in specific subjects.
- Students choose between elective options.
- Students may participate on our athletic teams: Fall - Cross Country Running, Fall – Volleyball, and Winter - Basketball
- Students may participate in other extracurricular activities, including student council, yearbook, and drama.
- Teachers engage students with middle school-friendly instructional techniques.
- The curriculum provides thorough instruction in the language arts and in mathematics.
- Students begin study of the Spanish language.
- Students complete an annual science fair project.
- Students can qualify to compete annually in the ACSI Math Olympics.
- Students participate in middle school retreats and trips.

## Field Trips

- 4-H Center, Jekyll Island, GA (Science)
- Class Trip (3 year rotation)
  - 1) Atlanta, GA - includes trips to Plains and Warm Springs.
  - 2) Washington D.C. – 2015 Fall Trip
  - 3) Charleston, SC
- ACSI Math Olympics (Math)
- Local music and drama performances
- ACE Garden Center (Science)
- Savannah – Fort Jackson/RR Museum/Mighty 8<sup>th</sup> Museum

## **Teacher Profiles:**

### **Stephanie Ramage**

- ELA and Social Studies
- Joined the Saint Simons Christian School teaching staff in the fall of 2015
- 4 years teaching experience
- BS – Middle Grades, Georgia College and State University, 2011
- GA State Certified
- Church home – St. Simons Community Church
- sramage@sschristianschool.com



### **Shari Darrith**

- Mathematics and Spanish
- Charter Member (involved with SSCS since its inception in 1994)
- Joined the Saint Simons Christian School teaching staff in the fall of 1995
- 29 years teaching experience
- BA – Math and Religion, Duke University, 1974
- Certified by the Association of Christian Schools International
- Professional affiliations – Phi Beta Kappa (honor society)
- Church home – St. Simons United Methodist Church
- sdarrith@sschristianschool.com



### **Nancy Rivers**

- Science and Spanish
- Joined the Saint Simons Christian School teaching staff in the fall of 2014
- 27 years teaching experience
- BA – University of Tennessee
- M Ed. – Georgia Southern University
- Ed Specialist and Ed Leadership – Walden University
- K-8 Education Gifted Certification
- National Board Certified Teacher
- Church home – St. Simons Community Church
- nrivers@sschristianschool.com



### **Mark Kok**

- Headmaster
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Geography
- Joined the Saint Simons Christian School staff in July of 2014
- BA- Dordt College
- M Ed – North Arizona University
- Church home – St. Simons Community Church
- mkok@sschristianschool.com



# MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

## **Bible**

All middle school students take Bible class. Mrs. Ramage teaches Bible for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and Mrs. Darrith teaches Bible for the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

## **Language Arts**

The middle school language arts curriculum is designed to develop, strong, independent thinkers, readers, and writers, using writing and grammar resources, fluency building exercises, SAT prep. vocabulary, usage and mechanics skills practice, and other reference materials. Students continue to develop strong writing skills through a range of writing activities including expository, persuasive, fictional and informational assignments. Middle school students take two separate language arts courses: 1) Grammar & Writing and 2) Literature. The literature reading list is attached.

## **Math**

The math curriculum progresses from math concepts and computation to Pre-Algebra to Algebra 1. As a result, all students will complete a high school level course while in eighth grade. Throughout the math curriculum, emphasis is placed on basic computation skills, problem solving, and attention to details.

## **Science**

The science curriculum focuses on general science in sixth and seventh grade and physical science in eighth. The curriculum is taught from a distinctively Christian perspective, uses Christian publishers, and highlights our glorious Creator. The sixth grade students complete the ACSI curriculum, which we use in grades 1-6. Seventh and eighth grade students use Apologia textbooks. Students learn scientific reasoning and the scientific method, and they complete an in depth science fair project each year.

## **Social Studies/History**

The social studies curriculum focuses on world geography (6<sup>th</sup>), world history (7<sup>th</sup>), and Georgia and United States history (8<sup>th</sup>). The curriculum highlights the key regions of our world, important events throughout history, and key leaders God has used throughout history.

## **Spanish**

The Spanish curriculum begins with a basic introduction to the language in sixth grade. Over the course of seventh and eighth grades, students complete a full Spanish 1 course. As a result, students complete one year of high school Spanish in middle school.

## **Electives**

Students are given the chance to choose between elective courses in art, music, and technology. Elective courses are one semester and meet twice a week.

## **Physical Education**

The physical education program helps students develop their athletic skills, learn game skills, and grow in their understanding of honoring God in sports competitions.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL LITERATURE LIST

The following is the list of adopted titles used in the Middle School reading program. (Although certain titles are assigned to specific grades, when necessary, teachers may use titles from the list above or below their grades.) Students will read at least 5 books each school year.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The	Twain
Black Beauty	Sewell
Black Stallion, The	Farley
Hiding Place	Ten Boom
Johnny Tremain	Forbes
Journey to America	Levitin
Prince Caspian	Lewis
Summer of Monkeys	Rawls
Wrinkle in Time, A	L'Engle
Witch of Blackbird Pond	Speare
Biographies – various	(various)

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

A Christmas Carol	Dickens
At the Back of the North Wind	MacDonald
Call of the Wild	London
Esperanza Rising	Ryan
Homecoming	Voigt
Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story	Carson
The Bronze Bow	Speare
The Princess & Curdie	MacDonald
The Voyage of the Dawn Treader	Lewis
The Watsons Go to Birmingham	Curtis
Biographies – various	
Poetry – various	
Short Stories - various	

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Captain Courageous	Kipling
Romeo and Juliet	Shakespeare
Lord of the Flies	Golding
Merry Adventures of Robinhood	Pyle
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Taylor
Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The	Twain
The Giver	Lowry
Treasure Island	Stevenson
Poetry – various	
Short Stories - various	