Chapel at Smithville Christian High School

Belong. Believe. Succeed.

Presenting Team

- □ Gordon Park, Spiritual Life Director
- □ Neale Robb, Chapel Speaker
- □ Will Lammers, Praise Team Coordinator
- □ Robert Gerryts, AV Crew Coordinator
- Marlene Bergsma, Communications & Admissions













Chapel At Smithville Christian



- We are blessed
- □ This has been a long journey
- □ Chapel is always changing
- □ We have strong administrative support (= \$\$)
- We don't always get it right; we don't have all the answers
- □ We hope to encourage you

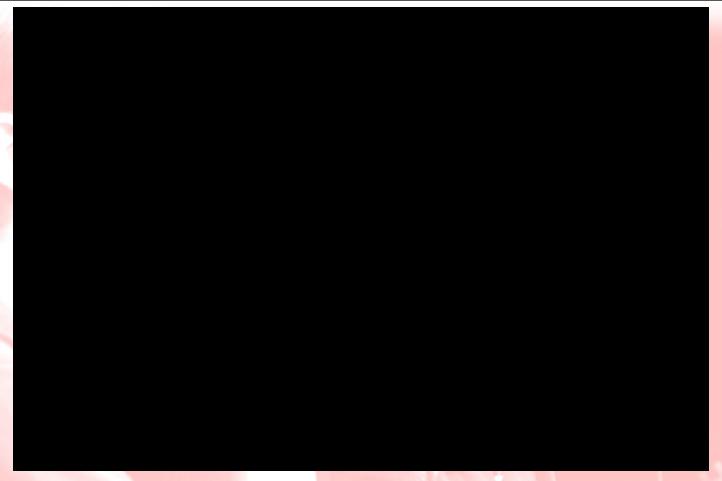
Presentation Format



- 1. A glimpse of what chapel looks like at Smithville Christian
- 2. Contributions from our various perspectives
- 3. Praise team video
- 4. General questions
- 5. Specific questions to specific presenters







http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cEenhVcmlbw

BACKGROUND – GP & NR

ASSEMBLY EVERY WEEK

1/2 HOUR IN DURATION (sometimes less, sometimes more)

ANNOUNCEMENTS / DEVOTION / MOVIES / VARIETY OF PURPOSES

EACH TEACHER REQUIRED TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR 1-2 ASSEMBLIES / YEAR

TEACHER LINES UP CLASS / SPEAKER /MOVIE / ETC

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE (PRINCIPAL + 1-2 TEACHERS) FILLS IN THE GAPS

A SHIFT

- THE SHIFT BEGAN IN THE LATE '90s, EARLY 2000s
- THE SHIFT WAS NOT A FIX
- THE SHIFT MOVED IN CONJUNCTION WITH WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN YOUTH / CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICES AT THE TIME
- STUDENT POPULATION WAS BECOMING MORE DENOMINATIONALLY DIVERSE
- AS A SCHOOL, WE WERE WILLING AND ABLE TO PROVIDE CHAPEL EXPERIENCES WHICH INVOLVED A 'YOUTH' WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

ASSEMBLY becomes CHAPEL

Chapel is a time where the entire school gathers together to worship God and listen to His word. Although there is time given to announcements for school events, celebrations of birthdays, etc. - the focus of the **Chapel** is upon Jesus Christ and His love for us.

We use the term 'CHAPEL' deliberately in reference to our worship times, and students know that worship is our primary focus.

What Happens at Chapel?

Chapel usually includes singing songs of praise and worship to God, as led by student praise teams. At times, guest praise teams lead our student body in worship.

Speakers will share insights with the students in regards to glorifying God, and inspiring each student to live a life that honours God. Speakers may be OUR Spiritual Life Director, staff members, invited guests, alumnae or other students in the school.

Speakers are invited to speak on the Chapel theme for the year (set by Spiritual Life Director & Admin) but there is no mandate to have to do so.

Why Is Chapel Important To Us?

- Chapel is truly a means of bringing our school together and of shaping the lives of our students in regards to their readiness to go out into their classes, their friendships and the wider world as representatives of Jesus Christ. They are a tremendous time of thankfulness, reflection and inspiration.
- For most students and staff of Smithville Christian, Chapel is integral to who we are as a community.

Bridging from Assembly to Chapel

- Intentionality
 - Made a clear choice to create a worship time instead of simply a student gathering
- Administrative commitment
 - Administrator gave leadership & supported others involved
- Flexible length
 - Chapel considered a weekly high point in student life and worship



• Spiritual Emphasis Week [SEW]

Chapel Culture

Acceptance

 students regularly reminded through words of praise to accept one another and guests

Encouragement

Students and staff give each other encouragement even with simple things like announcements or birthdays

Participation

Student participation encouraged and applauded regularly

Speakers

Drawn from four main areas:

- 1. In house
 - Gordon Park & Neale Robb, sometimes students or another staff member
- 2. Community
 - Pastors, Youth Pastors, Alumni



- 4. Community organizations
 - Canadian Blood Services, MADD, **Grimsby Life Centre**

Praise Teams – Will Lammers

- □ Advertise
- □ Audition in singles or pairs
 - encourage
 - converse
- □ Create teams
- □ Feature student choice, student voice

Praise Team Preparation - WL

- □ Rehearse
- □ Expect
- □ Empower



AV Club as Learning — R. Gerryts

AV Club is at its heart a group of students learning about technology, and learning how to serve others with that knowledge.

Learning occurs best when there is **time**.

Learning occurs best when there is communication.

My Job: Shaping the time and communication so learning can occur.

AV Club: Shaping time to support Chapel

- Providing time for training.
- Providing time for "heavy lifting" setup.
- Providing time for early morning setup.
- Allowing time for sound checks.
- Allowing time for cleanup.
- Breaking things down.

AV Club:

Shaping communication to support Chapel

- Determining needs early and often.
- Avoiding the last minute requests.
- Preparing for last minute requests.
- Handling last minute requests.
- Understanding lack of perfection.

AV Club:

Final Thoughts

Technology is really about people, therefore AV Club is primarily a people club.

"It's never just a microphone."

We are most successful when no one even knows we are there. "The Ninjas of Light and Sound"

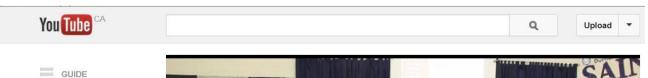
Telling the story. . . website



Telling the story...blog



Telling the story...YouTube



- □ 110 videos
- □ 28,000 views



Time for one more?



Questions? Comments?

- □ General questions to the entire group
- □ Specific questions to an individual



Thank you.



Our contact info and copies of the presentation available at www.smithvillechristian.ca