

## About Us – The School

### **Building a Strong Christian Foundation for Learning**

Albemarle Baptist Church School (ABCS) was a dream of our pastor, Marcus Deloach, since early in the beginning of the church. ABC was founded in August, 1998, and celebrated its 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016. Pastor Deloach and Mr. Haddock sat down one day early in March 2009 and sketched out plans to launch a Christian church school. By video conference they met with Wayne Scott from Virginia Baptist College and soon began investigating the possibility of establishing the school. Meetings were held with county planning department officials, representatives of the county health department, and various consultants well versed in Christian education and church schools. Support and advice was sought from several pastors and other school leaders through the Old Dominion Association of Church Schools (ODACS). A school board was organized and in 2010 began meeting monthly with the goal of establishing ABCS. Member support played an important role in jumping various hurdles placed on the church by different governing bodies. In the first round with the Albemarle Planning Commission our application for the school was defeated by a 4-3 vote of the commission members. At the hearing before the Board of Supervisors, 135 members and friends appeared in support of the school and 35 spoke before the Board. The application was approved on a 6-0 vote. Man cannot stand in the way of the Lord when His people are responding to His plan. In so many ways, during the struggles of the early days, we saw God's hand clearing the path that led to the opening of the school on September 6, 2011.

### **A Traditional Christian Educational Program Geared for Success**

Mission Statement: As an educational ministry of Albemarle Baptist Church, ABCS works in cooperation with Christian families for the purpose of training for life young men and women to be academically equipped and spiritually prepared for Christian service and leadership beyond their school years. At ABCS, we teach students to think by:

- comparing ideas, exploring the relationships of ideas, and applying ideas to real life situations;
- using traditional teaching methodology in presenting subject matter;
- teaching problem solving, deductive reasoning, and evaluation skills necessary for critical thinking;
- helping students become careful, disciplined lifelong learners and thinkers; and
- providing a realistic view of history and science, based upon the foundational truths of Scripture from a Christian perspective.

September 6, 2016, begins the sixth year of our existence. ABCS offers classes for grades K–12. The foundation of our school curriculum is A Beka Books (Pensacola Christian College, Pensacola, FL). Other Christian educational resources supplement the coursework that is required of our students. The academic program is supported by classes in fine arts (art and music), foreign language, and physical education. Monthly educational field trips are an important phase of the curriculum. ABCS is a member of the American Association of Church Schools and the ODACS. Our teachers have a combined teaching experience of more than 60 years in public and Christian schools.