

The Academy was born in the heart of Pastor Bill Sutton during 1972. After careful investigation and the securing of a Christian Education Administrator, the ministry was started with a daycare and kindergarten totaling 35 students in 1973, and named “Pine Hills Christian Academy”.

From the very onset, the Academy experienced rapid growth. The fall of 1972 saw the addition of grades one through six and the hiring of the first teacher/principal, Miss Hoskins. She was succeeded by Mr. Patrick Mennenga in 1975 with the addition of 7th grade.

From 150 students in 1975 to over 800 in 1984, the school continued to grow into a position of leadership in Christian Education in the Central Florida area. In addition to a full high school program, the Academy during this time specialized in programs for the educationally challenged students.

The 1984-1985 school year erupted with a split in the relationship between the school and church and Dr. Bill Jones became the administrator though enrollment declined.

Under the leadership of then Senior Pastor, Gene Pritchard, the church began to develop plans to relocate the entire ministry onto a 50 acre site located at Good Homes Rd and Colonial Drive just three and one-half miles west of Pine Hills campus.

In the fall of 1992, Mr. Carl Swindell succeeded Dr. Jones as administrator. The high school moved to the new west campus site in September of 1993.

In conjunction with the expanded vision to “reach all of Central Florida for Jesus Christ”, in July 1994 the ministries names were changed to First Baptist Church of Central Florida (FBCCF) and Central Florida Christian Academy (CFCA).

In March 1998 Dr. Russell Richards was named CFCA administrator. The total school enrollment was 376 and a new vision of optimism prevailed. The 1998-1999 school year presented further expansion as the middle school building was opened and housed grades six through eighth on the west campus. In the spring of 2000, FBCCF embarked on the “Occupy the Land” campaign which brought about the third educational building for preschool through grade twelve. School enrollment approached 600 students.

In 2003, Dr. Clayton Cloer became the senior pastor of FBCCF. Under his direction and new vision, the church and school experienced revitalization. Dr. David Bess was named as the new administrator for the 2004-2005 school year. By the end of 2008 there were many changes cause by what seemed to be a decline in the economy. Though losing many students and the resignation of Mr. Bess, God saw fit to continue His ministry by bringing in a team of professionals that had a history of working together for many years. Mr. Ed Gamble, Dr. Barbara Johnson, Mr. Tim Euler and Mrs. Charlene Evans were led by God to help rebuild the walls of CFCA. In 2010 Mr. Tim Euler took over as Head of School, Mr. Mitch Evans came in as Assistant Principal Upper School and Athletic Director.

We thank God for His faithfulness in providing students, teachers, staff and the necessary finances and facilities during these years. Much has been accomplished and will continue to be accomplished as we educate, inspire and equip every student for His glory.