



May 28, 2010

Dear Heathwood Hall Episcopal School Community:

This morning 55 fine young adults were graduated from our school. As is tradition, our girls wore white dresses and our young men white pants with navy blazers, against which red roses given to them as a symbol of our love for each of them were a striking contrast. Our faculty and staff donned academic regalia -- a rainbow of hoods displayed against black robes and tartan stoles indicating 15 or more years of service to Heathwood Hall. Uniquely designed to highlight the foundation of faith on which our school rests, our Commencement service is a holy and dignified celebration of all that our young people have been and all that we hope for them to become.

Year to year, these Commencement traditions remain true. What changes are the history, achievements and personality of each class.

I have come to know our Class of 2010 as a confident, warm and spirited bunch who were destined to make a lasting impact on our school. They graced us with their athleticism, their artistic talents, their academic prowess, and their vibrant personalities. Members of this class sought to increase school spirit. As Dr. Anne Weston reminded us during her remarks this morning, they supported last year a classmate struggling with health issues, raising funds and hope by selling and wearing purple bracelets and adopting Jeremiah 29:11 as a guidepost:

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

Our Class of 2010 will be remembered for their good hearts, positive action and ambition. As they travel to 13 different states to attend college, 70% of them having earned Life and Palmetto Scholarships, we know they will heed the message of this morning’s keynote speaker. The Right Reverend Marc Andrus, Bishop of the Diocese of California, encouraged them to “lean towards beauty, expand their souls, seek relationship and engage in service.”

Because our Class of 2010 is one of action, I am confident that they will.

My best wishes for a blessed summer.

Sincerely,  
*Chuck*  
Charles H. Jones III  
Head of School

P.S. To view photos from this morning's Commencement service, visit the link below.

<http://www.heathwood.org/news/happen/hh0910/Commencement10wp/index.htm>