

2012 Elementary Teacher of the Year

Karen Teasdale

Miss Karen Teasdale currently teaches 1st and 2nd grade but has taught 1st – 5th grade as well as a high school history class. She is entering her 36th year of teaching.

Karen Teasdale is a teacher to the core and, without a doubt, has the God-given gift of teaching. Whether working with a “gifted” student or a mentally-challenged student with special needs, Miss Teasdale challenges each student to reach his or her full potential. She seems to have an immeasurable amount of patience as she answers the countless questions of her students, whether they are asking a question related to her lesson or a question totally off on some tangent. She also takes every opportunity to squeeze even a tidbit of information concerning God’s creation into their wee little minds.

At the end of each month, Miss Teasdale spends the last Friday night and long Saturday transforming her classroom’s walls and bulletin boards for her visually-stimulated students. You will also find her keen artistic ability put to work with bulletin boards and educational posters throughout the halls and miscellaneous school rooms (music room, library). To Miss Teasdale, appealing to those students who are visual learners is worth the long hours of labor.

Miss Teasdale not only aids her students in excelling academically but also helps them develop good character qualities. She shows her students how to settle their differences with each other by using Biblical principles. When a student wants to give up, saying he or she can’t do it, Miss Teasdale encourages him or her in a no-nonsense fashion to persevere.

She is also the master of writing thank-you’s and encouraging notes, making sure her students and sometimes the whole school take part in expressing appreciation. This task shows students to be encouragers and to have a thankful attitude for such things as a ride to and from the field trip or for someone pitching in around the school.

Miss Teasdale also teaches by her life. At church, she is a Sunday School teacher, a Pee Wee Club director, and heads up our summer Bible School program. You will also see her going around and dusting the auditorium on Wednesday evenings after Bible study.

As one of the first ones to arrive at school in the morning and one of the last ones to leave, Karen puts her heart and soul, not to mention her every ounce of energy, into shaping and developing the minds of those who will have a part in the future of America, if the Lord tarries.