



Senior Cody Payne shared his testimony.

Executive Director Doyle and Pastor Anne prayed over seniors Cody and Tim.

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Seniors Share their Stories at Chapel Services

A Note from Pastor Anne:

Public speaking is not an easy task for many individuals, especially high school seniors. This year, six seniors braved the task and spoke at length during the weekly chapel services. They spoke of their Boys Home journeys and how they took advantage of all the lessons learned along the way. This year, public speaking principles and skills were taught by Laura Robertson, a member of the development staff who studied communication and public speaking in college. In addition, I led the students through questions about their lives to help frame their speeches. Their life stories were ones of personal growth, interest, hardship and humor. They each named a key principle they follow and chose a scripture passage for their message. After thought and preparation, speaking at chapel was less daunting and offered a space to share their wisdom with the younger students and staff.

The last three chapels in May were dedicated to hearing senior testimonies. Mason Peterson had the courage to be the first senior speaker. He told the story of his birth country of Ethiopia, his surprise at discovering ice cream in America was very cold, coming to Boys Home and learning to be himself. He shared his dedication to academics, which allowed him to skip a grade level. In the fall, he looks forward to attending Mountain Gateway Community College where he wants to learn welding. His principle was discipline, with a passage from Hebrews speaking of discipline not being pleasant at the moment but yielding the peaceable fruit of righteousness. Jareem Reid also spoke at the first chapel service, sharing what it was like growing up in Jamaica, coming to America and choosing to come to Boys Home. He found friendships easier to make and learned the importance of commitment. His scripture was from Philippians which reads, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

The second week, Tim Kengi spoke about unhealthy life habits which eventually led him to turn his life around, not just once but multiple times. He now considers himself a leader on campus. Tim referenced many hardships which became a means of learning. He read from Romans 5:4 which says, "Suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character and character produces hope." Tim is gifted with a natural comfort in public speaking and sharing his story.

Cody Payne also spoke during the chapel service on the second week. He used relatable biblical characters who have served as anchors for key principles he has used throughout life. John the Baptist was referenced for his qualities of not being what others wanted him to be or associating with the wrong crowd. King David was used as an example of a leader who admitted and learned from his mistakes. Cody learned the skills of being a quiet leader from former Boys Home students, Frank Commue and Christian Bass. Lastly, he learned the skill of self-control from Paul in the Bible and Mr. Copenhaver, a former staff member.

The last two speakers will be Rylee Callis and Mulu Slawta, who have spoken at numerous church visits. Mulu will represent Boys Home as the speaker at a local Memorial Day parade. May God bless the seniors as they begin their next chapter of life. It has truly been a blessing to serve them and help in their individual spiritual journeys.



Executive Director Doyle and Pastor Anne prayed over Mason and Jareem.



Mason delivered his senior chapel speech.

GET INVOLVED

DONATE

- * Become a member of the crew that supports Boys Home on a monthly basis, *Carpenter's Crew*. More information online.
- * Make an individual donation at www.givetoboyshome.org.
- * Make an in-kind donation to our Wish List. Find the list at www.boyshomeofva.org located at the bottom of the home page.

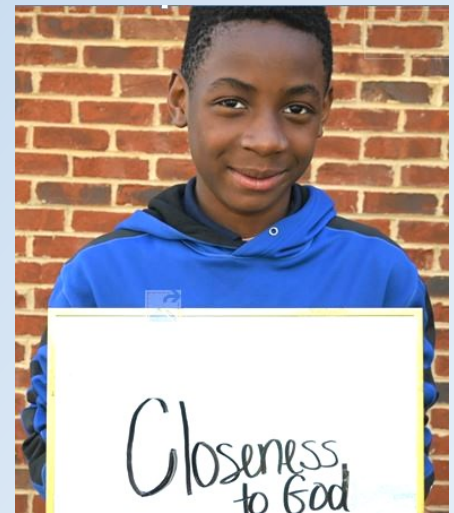
SPREAD THE WORD

- * Sign up for the Boys Home newsletter at www.boyshomeofva.org under "Mailing List."
- * Forward *Liaison Links* to other members of your church, friends and family.
- * Like us on Facebook & Instagram or follow us on Twitter.

STAY UP TO DATE

- May 17 | Last Day of School
- May 20 | Graduation and Awards Ceremony
- May 23 | Give Local Alleghany Highlands
- October 28 | Harvest Hustle

STUDENT PRAYER CORNER



Nazayah's Prayer:

"I am praying for my family and their health."

Your continued support of Boys Home is touching lives and changing futures for the better.

Thank you for all the ways you support these young men.

Upcoming Events

**Give online to
Boys Home of Virginia
on Tuesday - May 23, 2023!
12:00 a.m. — 11:59 p.m**



Boys Home
of Virginia

Participate in a 24-hour online giving event
at www.givelocalah.org and
help Boys Home reach our goal of \$20,000!

Give during Power Hours

on May 23!

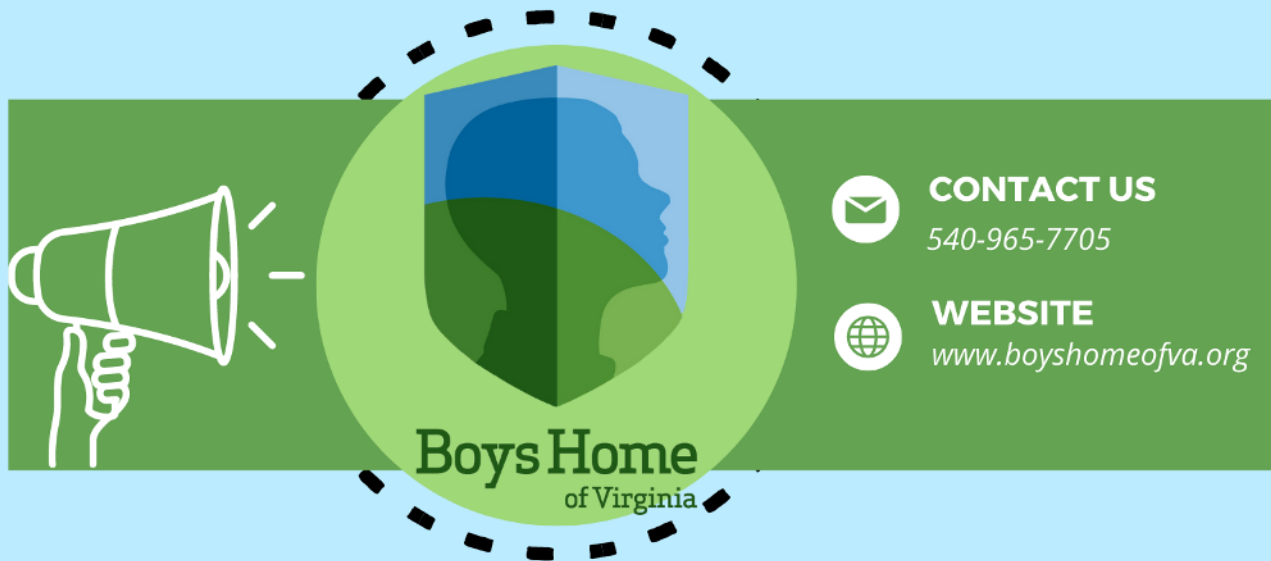
10 a.m. — 11 a.m.

3 p.m. — 4 p.m.

8 p.m. — 9 p.m.

**Any cash or check
donations received
May 9 - May 23
will be counted towards
the grand total received!**

We Are Hiring!



WE'RE HIRING!

RESIDENTIAL STAFF

- Full time hours with benefits
- Shifts are four days on, four days off
- Models and teaches moral and ethical standards
- Creates a positive and nurturing living environment
- Directly involved in students' academic progress
- Encourages students in their religious journey
- Must possess valid driver's license

Contact Rebecca Skidmore to apply
rskidmore@boyshomeofva.org