**Beginning Guitar Class Syllabus, 2016-2017**

Welcome parents! I am excited to teach guitar again after a number of years “vacation” from teaching it. I missed it and am happy to once again strum with the kids each day. I stopped teaching it because of severe throat issues, but had surgery a few years ago, and it proved to strengthen my voice tremendously. Please pray that my voice stays strong during this year.

**Philosophy**

Music is a glorious gift of which we can imitate our creative Creator, and show Him affection and worship. It is our desire that each guitar student become not only proficient on his or her guitar, but that he/she will gain a fuller understanding of music through the study of touches of music theory and music history, while becoming enabled to serve in a local worship ministry. Chords will be learned in the context of keys and songs; worship songs and secular songs will be the basis for the chord studies.

**Scope and Goals**

Upon completion of this course, the students will

1. Learn to play the acoustic guitar, to read chord charts, and to obtain a rudimentary understanding of various guitar-playing styles.
2. Students will be expected to play scales, chords, and notes with correct rhythms while playing alone (solo playing) or with others (ensemble playing). The course is designed to be appropriate for the beginning player with little to no background in music and/or guitar.
3. Students will be able to understand basic music theory for the purpose of playing in a band, worship team, or for the purpose of writing their own pieces.

**Grading**

The students will be given quizzes and tests throughout the year. Each will be graded. The majority of their grade will be given during class and will be based on their attitude and level of participation each day. An ‘A’ is certainly not guaranteed but is very possible to earn for most students. Keep an eye out on their participation grade and you will know how they are ding during class.

**Sequence and Concerts**

Quarter I: Basic Theory Principles, Basic Chords and chord structures, basic strumming methods, introduction to the theory of Barre chords

Quarter II: Using chords in structured settings: i.e., songs, prearranged chord progressions, continued Barre Chord practice, Christmas concert music.

Christmas Concert is December 15, Thursday at 7:00 in the gym. Guitar class will perform.

Quarter III: Advancing theory, Advancing Chords

Quarter IV: Music Analysis, spring concert music,

Spring Concert is May 12, Friday at 7:00 in the gym. Guitar class will perform.

Thank you for the privilege of teaching your child this year. I trust that they will become a lover of guitar and music. What fun we will have!

~Mrs. Hazelrigg

**Any questions or concerns?** **nhazelrigg@berean-Eagles.org****, or text me at 510-734-4800.**