

# THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

## Genesis Christian to relocate to Berrien County

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— REMERTON — Genesis Christian School is moving. In August, the kindergarten through eighth grade school will open its doors for study in religion and academics in Berrien County.

Currently based in Remerton, the school will take up residence at the old Berrien Elementary School on June 1.

The move was a natural progression of the goals laid out five and a half years ago when the school first opened, said Dr. Debra Tann, administrator and founder of Genesis Christian School.

The plan has always been to expand the school and eventually offer high school classes. When Tann saw an ad for the auction of the elementary school facility, she knew the time had come.

After Tann received the blessing of her board members and parents, she went before the Berrien County Board of Education and was successful in her bid to purchase the school. The new location has 40,000 square feet of space, 33 classrooms, a media center, a gymnasium and a cafeteria on nine acres of land.

Genesis Christian School is currently housed in a 5,500-square-foot facility, Tann said. "We wanted to grow physically," she said. "We now have seven times the space we have currently."

Not only are Tann and her staff making plans to move, the school is preparing to add high school classes in 2011, a Bible college and a GED program.

"I have a strong sixth grade class that I would like to see graduate from Genesis," she said.

Tann said more than half of her students are making the scholastic move to Berrien County, and she is spending the remainder of the semester convincing the others to go.

The school does have a bus, and in the fall, will make three stops along Bemiss Road to pick up students, she said.

Moving the school to Berrien County will give residents an alternative means of education for their children. There are no private schools in a 30-mile radius, she said. “We are moving into a gold mine because of the need,” Tann said. “Parents are yearning for a different academic opportunity.”

The classrooms at Genesis Christian School do not exceed 15 students. Interviews are granted to prospective students who complete an admissions application and provide a recent photo, a \$100 non-refundable registration fee, a personal recommendation from their church, a birth certificate, a transcript of academic work, current achievement test scores, attendance and discipline files, a certificate of eye, ear and dental exams and a Georgia certificate of immunization.