

Mrs. Candy Jernigan
Lower School Principal

Mrs. Candy Jernigan serves as FCA's Lower School Principal, overseeing grades K3–5, STEAM, K3–2 Music, and Aftercare. She is passionate about helping young learners grow academically, spiritually, and personally during their foundational years while supporting and encouraging the lower school faculty team.

Mrs. Jernigan holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communicative Disorders and a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology from The University of Alabama. She has also completed post-graduate studies in Educational Leadership through Grand Canyon University and maintains both a Principal Certificate and Professional Staff Certificate through ACSI.

Mrs. Jernigan began her career in education in 1999 and entered educational leadership in 2022. After many years serving in public education, she transitioned into Christian education and joined FCA in 2022. She began serving as Lower School Principal in 2024 and brings seasoned guidance, wisdom, and steady leadership to FCA's Lower School. She considers it a blessing to lead a passionate teaching team dedicated to academic excellence and Christ-centered education.

Mrs. Jernigan is especially grateful for the opportunity to openly share her faith and lead from a biblical worldview at FCA. She strives to honor the Lord in every decision and interaction, praying daily for wisdom, courage, and discernment. Joshua 1:9 serves as an anchor for her leadership: "Be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

For Mrs. Jernigan, stewarding the mission means ensuring that every aspect of Lower School life reflects FCA's mission of developing students who honor God and thrive through academic excellence. Through curriculum evaluation, collaboration, and partnership with families, she works to keep Christ at the center of all FCA does.

Mrs. Jernigan and her husband, Brian, are the proud parents of three daughters. A former member and co-captain of The University of Alabama's Million-Dollar Band color guard, she once even went bungee jumping in high school. She believes deeply in FCA's mission to encourage students to love the Lord first, serve others faithfully, and pursue lifelong learning.