

The Pathfinder

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.
Psalm 119:105

Nurture - Develop - Educate

Even Geography Fulfills Scripture

Sometimes people ask where Jesus was from. In fact, people discuss how Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Judea, Egypt, Nazareth, and many other locations play into the Christmas account. Well, anytime we have questions about Christmas or any other questions about Christ, we teach the students at Peoria Christian School that we need to turn to the Bible. The Bible is God's Word which teaches us for all aspects of our life (II Timothy 3:16-17).

We first see that Jesus Christ was born in a town called Bethlehem (Matthew 2:5-6), which was a fulfillment of Scripture from Micah 5:2. We see that Mary and Joseph made the journey from Nazareth to a place called Bethlehem because they had to pay their taxes and register for the census (Luke 2:4-7). We also learn that the only other king of Judah born in Bethlehem was a person by the name of David. David, who would shepherd the Israelites and who would have a greater Son to come and shepherd the flock and be born in a little town called Bethlehem. Micah used the image of shepherds, which would have been very familiar to the people of Bethlehem, but centuries later it would be shepherds that would come and welcome the Savior of the World (Luke 2:8-20). So, first we see that Jesus was born in a town called Bethlehem.

Second, He would come out of Egypt (Matthew 2:15), which was a fulfillment of Scripture from Hosea 11:1. Because of King Herod's jealousy, he ordered the death of all baby boys 2 and under in the land of Bethlehem and its surrounding area (Luke 2:16). So, God sent an angel to warn Joseph and have him take Mary and baby Jesus to flee to Egypt. The first time God saved His people Israel, in their infancy of a nation, was when God rescued them from slavery, but this time God took His Son, as an infant, out of Egypt to save His people from the slavery of sin.

Finally, Christ grew up in a place called Nazareth (Matthew 2:23). There may not be an exact reference in the Old Testament to this scripture in Matthew but we know that Nazareth was despised and rejected (John 1:46) and in Isaiah 53:3, we see that Christ would be despised and rejected by His own people. So, we see that even geography is fulfilled in Scripture. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, came out of Egypt, and raised in Nazareth.

As we enter into the Christmas season, I want to thank you for your support this past year at Peoria Christian School. It is astonishing how God keeps blessing our school, and we also want to thank you for your many prayers and financial support. Merry Christmas,
Jeremy Copenhaver

THANK YOU

We want to thank everyone for your continued support through this past year. Your words of encouragement, prayers, and financial gifts were greatly appreciated. We are excited to see what God has in store for us in this coming year! Please make sure to check out the latest postings on Facebook and share with your family and friends the amazing ways that God is blessing us here at Peoria Christian School (James 1:17).

Peoria Christian School Board News

School Board Meeting: December 5, 2022

The Board sang "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" from the Psalter Hymnal. President Spencer Fynaardt read from Ephesians 4:1-7 and opened with prayer. All members were present except Dan Hol and Adam Fynaardt with notice. Minutes of the October Board Meeting were read and approved.

- Drew Van Wyk visited school during the previous month and delivered favorable reports.
- From the Ed Committee, Laura Fynaardt and Lisa Vermeer were the guest teachers at their meeting. Team teaching in the 5th and 6th grade classroom is going well.
- From the Ed Committee, the board approved a field trip to the Mahaska County Conservation Learning Center in April.
- From the Principal's Report, a request for a couple board members to attend the Legislative Supper at Pella Christian High School on December 12th.
- From the Principal's Report, a praise that Lisa Groenendyk has agreed to sub for Music and Band during Mrs. Ansley's maternity leave.
- From the Promotions Committee, the Career Fair is scheduled for January 27th.
- New Business, the board approved the purchase of ESV Study Bibles for 2023 graduates.

Next meeting: Monday, January 2nd at 6:30PM.

Nick De Haan closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Nick De Haan, Secretary

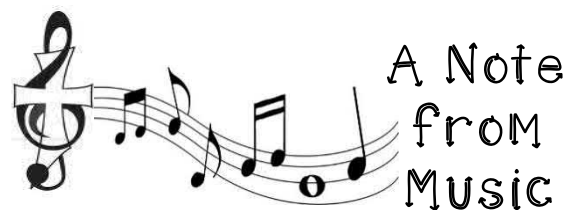


LEGACY OF GRACE STUDENT TUITION ORGANIZATION

Donations are currently being accepted for the Legacy of Grace Student Tuition Organization. As of December 5, 2022, \$234,652.85 has been collected towards this year's goal of \$551,193.34. These funds are used to provide tuition relief to students in area Christian schools. See the attached information and form or visit <https://www.logsto.org/donate.cfm> for more details if you are interested in contributing. Contact the school office with any questions.

IXL JOB SHARE

We are looking to fill this part time shared teaching position starting after Christmas. This position will be 2 days a week. If you are interested, please contact Jeremy Copenhaver (principal@peoriachr.org). Thank you for your continued prayers as we search for someone to fill this position.



The last several weeks have been spent preparing for the Christmas Program. Students have been diligently practicing their songs and lines. Along with our band students, the 3rd & 4th graders learned a piece on our hand chimes. The 6th-8th grade band students have also started working on their selections for Fine Arts Night in February. There is always much to prepare for this time of year! We are thankful to share that Mrs. Lisa Groenendyk has agreed to fill in for Mrs. Ansley during her maternity leave.

Pre-K & Kinder

In PreK, we are continuing to learn our letters. We have learned just about all of them. After the first of the year, we will begin learning how to write the letters, which the students are excited about. Looking back at the first half of the year, it is fun to see how much growth we have made. Our fine motor skills have improved so much since the beginning of the year. We can also spontaneously identify more letters and numbers. I praise the Lord for this little group of hard working kids! ~ Mrs. Klaasen

1st & 2nd

It's hard to believe that we are almost half way through the school year! We have been working hard on learning and mastering new math skills. This past month, in history, we have been studying the Pilgrims. We have seen how God faithfully took care of them as they set out to a new land so they could worship Him according to what the Bible said. We are thankful that we live in a country where we can freely worship the Lord! ~ Mrs. Klaasen



Resource Room

The school's overall growth keeps trending up with +29 (2.9 months) in math and +43 (4.3 months) in language arts! We have begun our competition again to motivate the students to work even harder. If they master a certain amount of appropriate skills on IXL by the end of a month, they receive a fun IXL period. Let the games begin! ~ Mrs. Fynaardt

3rd & 4th

As Thanksgiving was just last week, we have so many things to be thankful for! We have a board in the back of our classroom that is filling up with leaves. Each leaf has something we are thankful for. Here are a few of them: math, my new baby brother Noah, living in a free country, heating and air conditioning, snow, and siblings. God blesses us freely, and our class takes time every week to thank God for those blessings during our 'thankful prayer' time. Looking forward to December, we have a lot to come. We have three student birthdays or half-birthdays to celebrate, many units to finish, concerts to perform, and parties to attend. The third graders are also starting to complete most of their daily work in cursive. The fourth graders are mostly excited to be learning the start to long division. And, of course, all the students are looking forward to celebrating the birth of Christ, and having some time off of school. Here are some things they are looking forward to the most: seeing family from out of state, going out of state to see family members, and having Christmas dinner. May the Lord bless each of you this Christmas season! ~ Miss Taft



Spanish

Enjoy reading what each grade has been focusing on this month!

- 1st Grade:** The first graders are identifying the days of the week God created.
- 2nd Grade:** The second graders are identifying the fall months God created.
- 3rd Grade:** The third graders are identifying Christmas vocabulary.
- 4th Grade:** The fourth graders are identifying some of the emotions God has given us.
- 5th Grade:** The fifth graders are using their God-given knowledge to identify sports.
- 6th Grade:** The sixth graders are using their God-given knowledge to identify pronouns.
- 7th Grade:** The seventh graders are identifying and giving thanks for food items.
- 8th Grade:** The eighth graders are identifying and giving thanks for family members. ~ Mrs. McConnell

5th & 6th

In 5/6th grade, we have been busy learning about the Civil War. Recently we learned that the Battle Hymn of the Republic was written by a lady named Julia Ward Howe. She wrote the words after touring Union army camps in 1861 and it was published in 1862. What words of comfort for those living amidst trials and suffering then and for us now 160 years later! "Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on." We are thankful to know this great God who holds all things in His almighty hands. We join our voices with those who have gone before us in praise to our God. ~ Mrs. Ver Meer

7th & 8th

On Tuesday, November 22, the eighth graders had the opportunity to visit Pella Christian High School. The high school hosted their annual eighth grade visit day. Peoria had seven students, accompanied by Mrs. V.W. and Mr. Cope, who went to the high school. When we arrived at the school, we were split into small groups for an all school chapel. After chapel, we learned a little more about Pella Christian and were able to enjoy Bonnie's chocolate chip cookies. Later we were able to ask Pella Christian's student council questions and hear what they had to say about high school, and we were able to go on classroom visits and a tour. Lastly, we enjoyed Bonnie's thanksgiving lunch, which was a treat. As we will graduate eighth grade this year and head on to high school, we know and have the reassurance that God will be with us everywhere we go. Joshua 1:9 states, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." It is such a comfort to know that God will and has always been with us. ~ Submitted by Hannah Van Wyk



CHAPEL

Please join us on Friday, December 16th at 8:30 AM for our Christmas chapel. Nate Van Wyk is our scheduled speaker. Hope to see you there!

WINTER WEATHER ALERTS

As the seasons change, we become more aware of the need for communication when the weather changes our plans. Peoria Christian School uses the following methods to alert our parents and society of weather-related changes. Please check these sources when the weather is questionable:

- Text Message: If you would like to be added to our text message list, please contact the office for the form.
- Email: All society members are emailed
- Facebook: Look for a post
- WHO-TV: Check the scroll at the bottom of your TV

THANK YOU

Peoria Christian School would like to thank all who helped make our Annual Fall Bazaar a HUGE success! We truly see God's faithfulness to us as He once again has used you to bless our school. It is truly a blessing to work together to serve our great God at Peoria Christian School. This year we raised over \$50,000! That is about \$5,000 more than last year and a new record! THE LORD IS GOOD, TO HIM ALONE BE THE GLORY!

With humble and heartfelt thanks,
Heidi Van Wyk, Stacie Fynaardt
and Lisa Ver Meer



His Mercies are new every morning, Great is Thy Faithfulness

WHAT'S
EVENTS
 HAPPENING

CHRISTMAS BREAK

School dismisses at 1:20 PM on Wednesday, December 21. Christmas break will be from December 22 – January 2. Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 3.

BIKE STORAGE

The Tulip Time Steering Committee has informed us that they are no longer able to store the bikes that we ride at Tulip Time. With this in mind, we are urgently looking for a new storage location for our bikes. There are approximately 50 bikes that are only used during Tulip Time. If you or someone you know are willing to help us fulfill this need, please contact the school office or Dennis Veenstra at 641-780-2256.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that everyday you can do little things to help raise funds for Peoria Christian School? Many companies have opportunities available to all of us that may seem small, but when we all do them it makes a big difference. Some of these are Amazon Smile (great to use during Christmas shopping!), Casey's Rewards (we all fill our cars up with gas), Box Tops (check those cereal boxes), Bredeaux Pizza (clip the proof of purchase next Saturday night), Coke Rewards (save those codes), Shop With Script (gift cards for everything), and empty ink cartridges from your computer's printer. Contact the school office for more details on any of these opportunities.

SNOW CLOTHES

Please remember to send your students to school with the proper winter weather gear (hats, gloves, snow pants, snow boots, etc.) for playing in the snow. If your student wears snow boots to school, please make sure they have a pair of shoes for the classroom. Snow boots should not be worn in the classrooms. Students are also permitted to bring sleds for use on the sledding hill when it opens.

LOST & FOUND

Recently there was a pink backpack left in the gym. It was possibly left after the Bazaar. We have also discovered a pair of gloves that may have been left at school. If they belong to you, please contact the school office. Also, the Lost and Found box can always be found between the front doors of school.





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DECEMBER	
December 9	2:20PM Dismissal
December 9	7PM Christmas Program at Peoria CRC
December 15	2-3PM Candy Cane Olympics
December 16	8:30AM Chapel, Nate Van Wyk Speaking
December 16	Christmas Program Make-Up Date
December 21	Christmas Dress Up Day
December 21	1:20PM Dismissal – End of 2 nd Quarter
December 22- January 2	No School - Christmas Break
JANUARY	
January 3	Classes Resume
January 6	Report Cards Sent Home
January 9-13	Map Testing
January 17	Science Center Field Trip – All School
January 18	2:40PM Dismissal
January 25	12:20PM Dismissal
January 27	8:30AM Chapel, Pastor Bob Johnson Speaking
January 27	1-3PM Career Day

MAP TESTING

Our winter Map testing is scheduled to take place on Monday, January 9 – Friday, January 13. Parents, please try to avoid any appointments during this week especially in the morning as their attendance is really important on these days. Overall, please pray for our students as they strive to do their best.

GRACE COUNSELING

Our next guidance counseling session, with Jora Van Maanen, is scheduled for the afternoon of Tuesday, January 3rd. Parents, please check the weekly email for more details.

PCS WISH LIST

Looking for a unique way to support PCS? The Wish List is a list of items that we need. Items can be purchased and dropped off at school. This month we are requesting donations of these items:

- ~ Forever Stamps
- ~ Colored Dry Erase Markers
- ~ Hand Soap
- ~ Plastic Spoon and/or Forks



IMPACT STUDENTS & RECEIVE 75% BACK AS AN IOWA TAX CREDIT



Financial donations to a School Tuition Organization (STO) support families who desire a Christ-centered education but struggle to afford it. Your donation also receives a 75% tax credit against your Iowa income taxes. This credit is the highest individual tax credit option in the State of Iowa!



75% Tax Credit

Your donation directly reduces your tax obligation to the state of Iowa. A \$1,000 donation reduces your taxes by \$750. Plus, it may also qualify for federal tax deductions depending on your situation.



Direct Benefit to Students

Dollars donated to an STO and distributed to a school can only be used to offset tuition and families must meet financial need criteria. That means you can be assured you have a direct impact on the lives of students.

Visit the STO website or your school's website to download a donation form and donate today. Donations can be made by a business or individual. The donation deadline is December 31, but tax credits are limited, so it's a good idea to donate early.

Please note, gifts to STO programs should not replace the present giving that you do for Christian education.

HEART OF IOWA School Tuition Organization (HOI-STO)

Pella Christian Grade School
www.heartofiowasto.org

LEGACY OF GRACE School Tuition Organization (LOG-STO)

Central Iowa Christian School
Newton Christian School
Oskaloosa Christian School
Ottumwa Christian School
Pella Christian High School
Peoria Christian School
Sully Christian School
www.logsto.org

Donate today to impact students and receive a great tax benefit! It's a win-win!

2022

Legacy of Grace

2022

SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATION

726 North "E" Street • Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577 • www.logsto.org

Individual Donation Form

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Social Security Number _____
(We are unable to distribute tax credits without name, address, and social security number)

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Check here if you would like your acknowledgement receipt emailed to you.
Be sure to include your email address above.

Grain Transfer	
Use Only	
I, _____ transfer _____ bushels	
of corn or beans to Legacy of Grace STO on ____/____/2022.	
X _____	Date ____/____/2022
Producer	
X _____	
Business Representative	
Representative of _____.	

Please make checks payable to **LOG-STO**

Please send to: Legacy of Grace STO
726 North E Street
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Office Use Only	
Date of Donation	_____
Check No.	_____
Amount	_____
CACTAS Date	_____