

The Pathfinder

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

Nurture - Develop - Educate

Principal's Message

Continuing Christian Education

I feel that Isaiah chapter 6 really sums up what we are trying to teach every day at Peoria Christian School. The background going into Isaiah chapter 6 is that we learn that Isaiah is warning the nation of Judah of coming judgment, but they lean on their king Uzziah for comfort. However, we learn that Uzziah died suddenly after 52 years of being their king. Uzziah entered the temple and offered incense on the alter, which only the priest could do. He died on the spot (II Chronicles 26:16). The people of Judah were left in shambles. People (including Isaiah) were wondering what was going on and was God still in control.

Well, the very first verse in Isaiah chapter 6 answers that question. It says, "In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the temple." The very first thing that Isaiah saw was God sitting on the throne. Isaiah was reassured that God is still ruler, He is still in control, and He is sovereign over all of creation.

In verse 2 it says, "Above Him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two He covered His face, and with two He covered His feet, and with two He flew." We see that God is powerful. He still had His angelic force ready at His command. The angels had 6 wings, 2 to cover their faces as created beings in the presence of a Holy God, 2 wings to cover their feet because they were on holy ground, and 2 wings to fly because they were ready to serve a mighty God.

Verse 3 says, "And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!'" Anytime in the Old Testament a word is repeated 3 times, it means unlimited, infinite, without end. So, the angels were singing to an infinitely Holy God.

So, we know that we have a need for Christian education so that we can continue to teach our students that God is sovereign (no matter what happens He ordained it in our lives for our good), God is powerful, and God is holy, holy, holy. Isn't that amazing. In the last verse of the chapter, it talks about the tenth. This is meaning that there is always God's chosen people placed in a land. We have a reason to celebrate and continue Christian education to help teach the tenth to reach a lost and dying world.

Thanks for your continued support,
Jeremy Copenhaver



"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

School Calendar

- September 13**
2:40PM Early Dismissal
- September 20**
12:20PM Early Dismissal
- September 21**
8AM School Pictures
- September 22**
8:30AM Chapel
- September 26**
PK-4th Camp Creation
- September 29**
5th-8th 1PM Soccer with Sully Christian
- October 5**
No School
Staff In-service
- October 6**
No School
- October 13**
1:20PM Dismissal
- October 18**
12:20PM Dismissal
- October 19**
PK-2nd Grade to Autumn Acres in afternoon
- October 26**
8:30AM Chapel
4-8PM Parent Teacher Conferences
Report Cards Go Home
- October 27**
No School
- October 30**
Grace Counseling

School Pictures

School pictures will be taken of all students and staff by LifeTouch Photography on Thursday, September 21st. Please see the Weekly Pathfinder for more details.



Peoria Christian School Board

School Board Meeting: September 5, 2023

The Board sang Psalter Hymnal #462, Amazing Grace. Adam Fynaardt read from 1 John 1:5-10 and opened with prayer. All members were present.

Minutes from the August meeting were read and approved.

From the Education Committee:

- Classroom visits are to resume.
- Currently reviewing Pella Christian's fall musical "Mary Poppins" for a decision at the next meeting.

From the Promotions Committee:

- Culvers night was a success. Thank you for such generous support.
- The Flamingos will be coming to a yard near you soon.
- Craig Ford is planning a ride and drive event Sept 23, 8:30-3:00. \$25 to be donated per driver (one driver per household).

From the SIT (School Improvement Team):

- Surveys are being sent out on September 7.
- The School profile is currently being updated.
- They are planning two events for all society members in November.

From the Bus Committee:

- The buses were inspected and a few issues were found but all issues have been resolved.
- We are still looking for bus drivers. They do have one individual that may be interested in part time if someone is willing to partner.

From the Building Committee:

- A key card system for main entrance was discussed and approved.

Next Meeting: October 2 at 7pm
Dennis Veenstra closed in prayer.
Respectfully submitted,
Eric Fynaardt

Classroom News

PreK & Kindergarten

We have had a wonderful beginning to Kindergarten and PreK. There are 5 kindergarteners and 1 PreK student in our room this year. We are having fun making new friends and learning what it is like being in school. I have heard a couple different times, "Kindergarten is a lot longer than PreK!" We praise the Lord for new friends and a great start to the year.

~ Mrs. Krista Klaasen

Upcoming Field Trips

7th & 8th Grade: Pumpkin Picking at Arvin Roose's, 8:15AM, Friday, September 8

3rd-4th Grade: Nelsen Pioneer Farm in Oskaloosa, September 22

PK-4th Grade: Camp Creation, Tuesday, September 26

*Parents please see the Weekly Pathfinder or your classroom newsletter for more details regarding field trips.

CHAPEL

Please join us on Friday, September 22nd for our next scheduled chapel. Alex Foley from 1st Church in Pella is scheduled to be our speaker. Hope to see you there!

SOCCER GAME

Lord willing, we will have a combined P.E. with Sully Christian School. On Friday, September 29, the 5th - 8th grade students from both schools will be playing soccer at Peoria. The game is scheduled to start at 1:00PM. This is a great community building opportunity and parents are invited to attend. Hope to see you there.



1st & 2nd Grade

Second grade is off to a great start! Since we have no 1st graders this year, we are blessed to focus on only 2nd grade skills. It has been a delight for all of us to be working together. We are still working to get into the routine of school and schedules, but everyday we adjust a little bit more. This year, our classroom theme is "Standing on the Promises of God." We have God's symbol of promise, the rainbow, hanging throughout the room. As the year goes on, we will learn more about several of the promises God has given us that we can depend on, because God always keeps His promises!

~ Mrs. Melinda Vos

3rd & 4th Grade

Here we are at the start of a new school year. The students have all been doing a great job getting back into the school routine. They have completed their first MAP testing of the year, applied for their classroom jobs, gotten their first paychecks, paid their first rent, and are excited for what comes next. The third graders have started learning cursive, while the fourth graders are already in full swing and writing everything in cursive. In Bible, we are starting the year in the book of Genesis. We are reviewing how God created our world and appreciating all the beauty in His creation.

~ Miss Erica Taft

5th & 6th Grade

We are off to a great start in 5/6th grade! What a joy it is to be in the classroom with these students everyday! In History and Science, we are learning about our Creator God. We can see the greatness of God and how all of creation fits together from the beginning of time to eternity. Although the earth is under the curse of sin, God uses all things for His glory. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. He lovingly controls all of His creation. What a joy it is to point the students to this Savior every day. "For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." Colossians 1:16-17

~ Mrs. Lisa Ver Meer

7th & 8th Grade

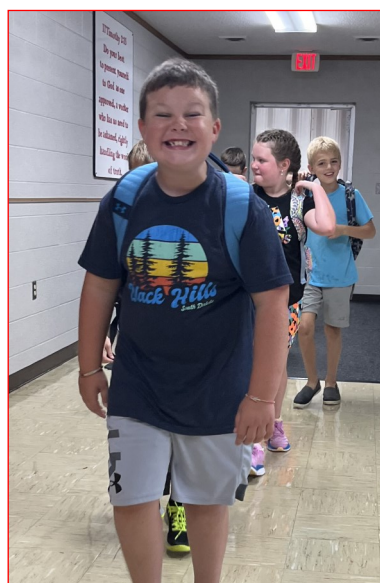
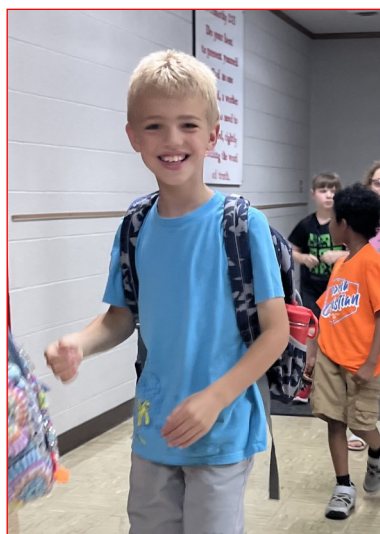
We have welcomed three new seventh and eighth graders, and our class now consists of thirteen students. On the first day of school, we had the first chapel in Peoria Christian Reformed Church. During chapel, the eighth grade boys lead pledges and the Apostles Creed and the rest of us shared a Bible verse. Mr. B. was our speaker and he spoke on our theme verse 2 Timothy 2:15. After Chapel, we went over to the gym and prayed together. Back in the classroom, we got a rundown of the schedule and routines to make sure everyone knew what to expect from Mrs. VW. We did a few get to know each other games and shared some things about the summer. I am excited for this new school year and can't wait to graduate this May.

-submitted by Rachel Vander Wilt, 8th Grade

Wish List

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

- ~ Forever Stamps
- ~ Disinfecting Wipes (Clorox, etc)
- ~ Mr. Clean Magic Erasers
- ~ Small Styrofoam Cups



IXL

This is the school year that the LORD has made! Many students found time to work hard on IXL throughout the summer. They received free custard coupons to Culvers for their "extra" diligence! If we can find another willing candidate to facilitate IXL the other 2 days I am not here, it will look very similar to past years. The students will meet in IXL small groups about skills that are precisely picked math or English language arts skills just for them on Monday and Tuesdays. Wednesday and Thursdays are planned for skills where students need additional support. Fridays are reserved for diagnostics as it lets us know exactly what only the individual child knows. I made some other small changes I hope will help to excite the children for a fresh new year! May they work hard for the glory of God alone.

~ Mrs. Amber Fynaardt

Music

It is wonderful to be singing with the students again! Kindergarten is working on learning fun songs and singing lots of Sunday School type songs. 1st through 4th grades are working on their music reading skills. The 5th-8th graders are already working on their Fall Festival songs and playing a game called Category. Psalm 98:4 says, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!"

~Mrs. Carolyn Ansley



JOB OPENINGS

We are continuing to look for the following positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Part time Job Share IXL Teacher (2 days)
- Part time Spanish teacher

Individuals interested in any of these teaching positions, please contact Jeremy Copenhaver (principal@peoriachr.org) for more information.

- Bus Drivers

Individuals interested in this position, please contact Sean Rozenboom (boomerstruckstuff@gmail.com) for more information. Please continue to pray that the right people will step forward to fill these positions.

VALUE CARDS

The 7th & 8th Grade students are once again selling Value Cards. These cards contain a variety of discounts to local businesses including: Fareway, Hy-Vee, Culvers, Ulrich's Meat Market, Scooters, and many more! Cards are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Contact a 7th or 8th grade student or the school office to purchase your cards.



BUS ROUTES

We want to thank Mr. Jim Warden who has been driving the van for the first few weeks of school. With that being said, we are in need of van drivers starting the middle of September. Please let the office know if you are willing to drive the van mornings, afternoons or both and which days of the week. Thank you very much as you consider meeting this need that we have.

CULVER'S NIGHT

We want to thank everyone who came and supported our school at Culvers. We were able to raise \$799.71 from Culvers and \$933.80 from tips for a grand total of \$1733.51 for our school, which goes towards promotions and our school shirts. Finally, we praise God from whom all blessings flow.

FACILITATORS

We are looking for more individuals who would be willing to serve in our classroom, with our students as facilitators. They are an important part of helping the school reach its mission and vision. Options are available for anytime of the day or week. If you are not already one of our amazing facilitators, please contact Jeremy Copenhaver (principal@peoriachr.org) to get the process rolling.

MARION COUNTY BANK REPORT CARD

A huge thank you as we were able to receive \$565.86 from donations from this program this past year and \$3,663.74 since the start of the program for our school back in 2007. If you are a Marion County Bank customer and have a bank debit card, here's a reminder of how it works:



- 1) Enroll at marioncountybank.com
- 2) Choose your school (Ex: Peoria Christian School)
- 3) Every time you make a purchase with your debit card, our school benefits!

TEST DRIVE FOR PEORIA

Join Peoria Christian School at Pella Motors in Pella for the Test Drive for Peoria event. Every person (1 per household) that test drives a car between 8:30AM-3:00PM that day will earn \$25 for Peoria Christian School. Please take a moment out of your day to help "drive" up funds for our school. Any questions, please contact the office.

FLAMINGOS

There is a large flock of flamingos planning to arrive in the area mid-September. They will stay in the area until they migrate to their next destination around the middle of October. They will be making appearances in local yards to spread the word about Peoria Christian School! Stay tuned for more details on this entertaining fundraiser.

Aloha

Please join us for Peoria Christian's Annual Bazaar!
Find your Hawaiian shirt and Hula on over for some fun!



Save the Date...



Friday, November 10, 2023

for the Peoria Christian School Bazaar!!

Schedule of Events:

Bake Sale and Browse-n-Buy - 3:00-6:30pm

Coffee Time - 3:00-4:30pm

Supper - 5:00-6:30pm

Childcare - 6:45pm in the school

Live Auction - 7:00pm in the gym

If you would like to help or to donate something to make this fundraiser successful, please contact Lisa Ver Meer, Stacie Fynaardt, or Heidi Van Wyk. We greatly appreciate all your help as we strive to support Peoria Christian School.



"Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty!" Psalm 93:4

Peoria Christian School

110 Peoria West St.

Pella, IA 50219

641-625-4131

office@peoriachr.org

<http://www.peoriachr.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/PeoriaChristianSchool>

Instagram:

<https://instagram.com/peoriachristian?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@peoriachristianschool-pell248>

