



The Pathfinder

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

Nurture - Develop - Educate

REFLECTIONS

During this past school year, God has blessed the school in so many ways. We started off the year by welcoming nine new students to our school. In September, the older students enjoyed their yearly soccer game with Sully Christian, and the PK-2nd grade students visited Camp Creation to learn about what God did on each of the days of creation. At the end of the month, we were blessed by so many as they surrounded us with prayers and support as we suffered the loss of one of our students. God also blessed us with a beautiful day to remember our friend when we had our memorial service. In October, we learned what our new normal looked like. Through it all, we leaned on God and His faithfulness.

In November, we had a lot of events right after one another. The older students performed in the Fall Festival at Pella Christian, we held our annual Bazaar, celebrated Veterans Day with some special guests, and ended the month with Thanksgiving. We thank the Lord for all the ways He provided for us in the fall months!

December was a great time for the students to share their gifts and talents that God has given them at our annual Christmas program. We were able to bless children around the world by donating gift boxes through Operation Christmas Child. We finished out the month with Christmas break and celebrated the birth of our Savior with our families. After break, in January, we enjoyed one of the students' favorite field trips. We went to Coralville to the Children's Museum and ice skating at Coralridge Mall. We also got to enjoy a special lunch at Chick-Fil-A in between visits. The following week, we enjoyed a few visitors from Pella Christian High School as they spent their winterim time with us.

To round out the remainder of the winter, we held our annual Hostess Supper in February. God blessed us again with so many people supporting our school that evening. The third and fourth graders competed in a geography bee with Sully Christian, and the fifth through eighth graders held their annual volleyball game at Sully Christian. At the end of February and the start of March, our middle school students displayed their God-given gifts and talents at our local and district Fine Arts nights.

After spring break, things started moving quickly through the remainder of the school year. At the start of April, we were able to enjoy spending Easter with our families. Shortly after celebrating the death and resurrection of our Savior, we enjoyed Christian Education Week. We thank the Lord for so many grandparents, special friends, and society members that came on Grandparent Day. We appreciate their and your support throughout the entire school year. (continued on page 2)



"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32).

SCHOOL CALENDAR

June 2026

June 5

All Parent School Cleaning

June 13

Peoria Christian Tractor Ride

July 2026

July 6

7PM Society Meeting

August 2026

August 6

7pm New Families Meeting

August 18-21, 24

Teacher In-Service

August 20

6PM Back to School Night

August 25

First Day of School

8:30AM Chapel at Peoria CRC

We enjoyed a new combined program with the middle schoolers at Sully Christian School at the end of April. It was wonderful to see the students glorifying God together through their instrumental and vocal music. There were many other field trips and special days at the end of April and into May: the District V Track Meet, Tulip Time, PK-4th Field Day with Sully Christian, and our whole school picnic to West Market Park. We thank the Lord for our four eighth grade graduates as well. It was wonderful to end the year celebrating their graduation.

There are so many reasons for giving God praise during this past school year, but we also look forward to the blessings of this summer and upcoming school year as well. "For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen." (Romans 11:36)

Thank you for your continued support,

Erica Taft, Lead Teacher



Peoria Christian School Board

School Board Meeting: June 1, 2026

The Board sang "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" and Board President Eric Fynaardt read from Colossians 4 and opened with prayer.

Minutes of the May Board Meeting were read and approved.

- There has been some interest shown for our open positions for the 26/27 school year. Details were shared and discussed.
- A new fundraising opportunity was presented. Stay tuned for details.
- We were made aware of a policy change. Casey's had a program where your rewards could be donated to a local school through their App. This is changing as future donated points will be designated to the Casey's grant program.
- From the Finance Committee, a motion was supported and carried to approve the 26/27 budget and to be presented at the July society meeting.
- The school's security camera hard drive has degraded some over time so approval was given to purchase some new hardware.
- The waterline repair for the teacherage has been completed.
- Nominations for the 26/27 school board were reviewed.

Next meeting: Monday, July 6, 2026, following the annual society meeting.

Russ Fynaardt closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jameson Roose, Secretary

REGISTRATION & SOCIETY MEETING

The Annual Peoria Christian School Society Meeting will be held in the school gym on Monday, July 6 at 7PM. All supporters of Peoria Christian School are encouraged to attend this meeting as we elect new board members, approve the 2026/2027 budget, and hear reports regarding Peoria Christian School. Registration will be held ahead of the Society Meeting in the school beginning at 6PM. Parents are encouraged to attend Registration as details for the 2026/2027 school year will be distributed and finance committee members will be available to discuss tuition. Please contact the office with any questions.

OPEN POSITIONS

Peoria Christian is prayerfully looking to fill the following positions for the 2026/2027 school year:

- Principal (Full-Time)
- 7th/8th Grade Science-Teacher (Part-Time with a possibility of additional subjects for Full-Time)
- Bus/Van Driver (Part-Time, Immediate)

Interested individuals should email Miss Erica Taft at principal@peoriachr.org or Michelle De Haan at office@peoriachr.org.



THANK YOU

The students and staff at Peoria Christian would like to thank our supporters and society members for your prayers and support during the 2025/2026 school year. We are grateful not only for your monetary support, but your prayers and words of encouragement as well. We give thanks for each of you and pray for His richest blessings to cover you! (Ephesians 1:16)

2026/2027 THEME VERSE

“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.” Joshua 1:9

ENROLLMENT FOR 2026/2027

Enrollment is open for the 2026-2027 school year. Please reach out to Michelle at office@peoriachr.org if you are interested in enrolling for the 2026/2027 school year. Please join us in praying for the 2026/2027 school year and those students that the Lord has planned for us.

DIRECTOR OF PROMOTIONS

Peoria Christian School is looking for a part-time Director of Promotions. Those interested can contact Jayme Veenstra at jayme@ulrichsmeatmarket.com.

TRACTOR RIDE

The Peoria Christian School Tractor Ride is scheduled for Saturday, June 13. Registration will begin at 8AM in the school gym. Lunch will be provided after the ride back at the school gym. Everyone is welcome to join us for the freewill donation lunch and to view the tractors in the parking lot after the ride. Please contact Ruth De Bruin with any questions, 641-204-1855.

ESA APPLICATIONS

ESA Applications for the 2026/2027 are currently open and due by June 30, 2026. Parents, please log into your Odyssey account and apply for the upcoming school year. Questions can be directed to Kevin Van Der Hart at bookkeeper@peoriachr.org.



PATHFINDERS

The next Pathfinder will be distributed after the August School Board meeting. There will not be a July Pathfinder.

NEW FAMILY MEETING

A new family meeting will be held on August 6 at 7PM. We are specially encouraging families who are new to Peoria Christian for the 2026/2027 school year to attend, but all parents who are new within the last few years are welcome to attend. Please contact the office with any question.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, August 20 at 6PM. All students and their parents are encouraged to attend this event. We will start with a brief meeting in the gym and then students can proceed to the school to put their school supplies in their desks and get ready for the first day of school.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Tuesday, August 25 is the first day of school for the 2026/2027 school year. We will start the year with chapel at 8:30AM at Peoria CRC. Everyone is welcome to join us for chapel that morning.

CASEY'S REWARDS

Casey's has changed their school donation portion of their rewards programs. Casey's customers can no longer select a specific school to receive their donation. Instead, Casey's will funnel these donated funds into their grant program. Thank you to everyone who has used the avenue to contribute to Peoria Christian School.



Congratulations to the Class of 2026!



L to R: Jedidiah Anum-Higher, Susan Muether, Judah Vos & Philip Post

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