



THE PATHFINDER

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

Nurture • Develop • Educate

TELLING OUR STORY

Peoria Christian School has provided Christian education for students in the area since 1907. Through the highs and lows, God has supplied our school with exactly what we've needed for many generations. By the grace of God, next year will be 120 years of service to area families. This year, we are being recognized for 100 years of membership with Christian Schools International (CSI). Reflecting on these years, along with seeing our wall of graduates each day, reminds me of Psalm 89:1, "I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever; with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations".

Those of you reading this are part of Peoria Christian School's story. We praise the Lord for each and every one of you. As we look towards the future, we see how things are changing in how families learn about Peoria Christian. As our school leadership contemplated how to keep bringing new families into our school, it was decided to hire a Director of Marketing to help us achieve these goals. We are happy to announce Erin Fynaardt as our new director, along with the teaching she has taken on this year with our seventh and eighth graders.

In the coming months, you may start to see new content on our website and social media pages telling the story of Peoria Christian School. We will share more about what's going on in the school in the day-to-day, highlight special events, and look back at why our families chose Peoria Christian School. If you are interested in helping to tell stories of the past or present, reach out to marketing@peoriachr.org to get connected.

"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts." (Psalm 145:3-4)
Thank you for your continued support,

Erica Taft
Lead Teacher



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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

19 - Grace Counseling
 22 - School Picture Retakes
 23 - 1:20PM Dismissal
 End of 1st Quarter
 28 - 2:40PM Dismissal -
 Teacher Inservice
 29 - 8:30AM Chapel
 29 - 4-8PM Parent Teacher
 Conferences
 30 - No School

November

10 - Junior High Fall Music
 Festival
 11 - 12:20PM Dismissal,
 Curriculum Mapping
 13 - Bazaar - see back page!
 16 - Grace Counseling
 20 - 8:30AM Chapel
 25 - 12:20PM Dismissal
 26 & 27 - No School,
 Thanksgiving Break



PEORIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BOARD School Board Meeting: October 5, 2026

The Board sang "Praise the Savior Now and Ever" and President Bret Fynaardt read from 1 Kings 3:7-15 and opened with prayer. The minutes of the September Board Meeting were read and approved.

- The monthly Treasurer's Report was distributed and reviewed.
- We are thankful that ESA funds have been received for the fall semester, and the Board is grateful for the hard work and diligence of our Bookkeeper.
- The Principal position continues to be posted; please pray that God would provide for this position.
- Please continue to be in prayer for our staff, students, and families.

Next meeting: Monday, November 2, 2026

Jameson Roose closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
 Ben Gesink, Secretary

CLASSROOM NEWS

PK/K

It has been a great start to school in PreK and Kindergarten. We are starting to settle in and remember the rhythms and routines of the classroom. We have been busy learning letters and their sounds in both grades. The Kindergarteners are also learning how to correctly form the letters. In Science we have been learning about how amazing God created our bodies. It has been fun to do different experiments to learn about our five senses. We are excited to start learning about the different parts of the weather God has created.

~ Mrs. Klaasen



1st/2nd Grade

We are really settling into a wonderful rhythm in First & Second Grade! We have been learning about the creation of the universe and have discovered that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit were all present at creation. It has been exciting to see the students learn more about God's power and creativity through His creation. In Science, we have been discussing the importance of science and what science is all about. We are looking forward to learning about plants and discovering the amazing details God designed into each one!

~ Mrs. Williamson

OPEN POSITIONS

Peoria Christian is prayerfully looking to fill the following positions:

Principal
(Full-Time)

Substitute Bus Drivers
(Part-Time)

Substitute Teachers
(As Needed)

Please contact Michelle De Haan at office@peoriachr.org for more information or if interested.



3rd/4th Grade

Greetings from 3rd and 4th grade! We had a great September in our classroom! Science was a big highlight this month with our Seed Dissection and Pinecone Investigation. We enjoyed watching the older students play soccer against Sully Christian. Our class will be working all year on learning about Difference Makers, especially those that relate to each region we are learning about in Social Studies. In September, we were learning about the Africa region and learned of Difference Makers such as David Livingstone who was a missionary to this region. Our class is also looking for opportunities to notice or even BE a Difference-Maker "around the corner, around the world!"

~ Mrs. Merrin



5th/6th Grade

In 5/6th grade, we have been busy learning about Chemistry! We were introduced to atoms, molecules, and the Periodic Table of Elements for the first time! What excitement there was as we discovered there are 118 elements made up of very tiny atoms! A highlight for the students was attempting to learn a fun song to go along with them! What comfort and joy it brings to know that none of these elements are unknown to God because He created them! With each new discovery, God's glory is more fully revealed to man. As Colossians 1:16 says, "All things were created by Him, and for Him." We are thankful to know the God who has infinite knowledge and who holds all things, including atoms, in His almighty hands.

~ Mrs. Ver Meer

7th/8th Grade

This month we have been reading The Bronze Bow written by Elizabeth George Speare. We have been learning about the main character Daniel and how he hates the Romans and why. We found out that his parents died, and Daniel was mad because the Romans killed his father. Daniel also has a soft spot for his sister Leah, his grandmother, and Thacia. We have been thinking if we were Daniel what would we do. We are excited to finish the book. The title of the book is from Psalm 18:34, "He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze." What this means in the book is that we cannot do everything alone, but we can with God's help.

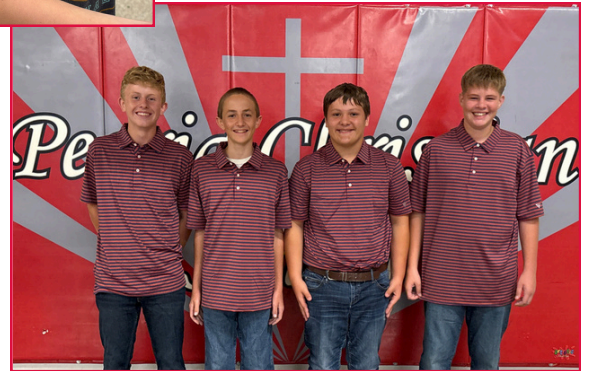
~Submitted by Hudson Fynaardt, 8th Grade

Music

Junior high students have been working on music for Fall Festival in band and choir. The elementary students are learning different elements of reading music and singing in their high, natural child's register.

~ Mrs. Ansley

A LOOK INSIDE



Soccer with Sully Christian



ITEMS NEEDED

Throughout the school year, Peoria Christian School has items that are needed for our day-to-day use. This is a tangible way for society members to contribute to Peoria Christian School. These items can be purchased and dropped off at school during normal hours:

- Postage Stamps
- Magic Erasers
- Kleenex
- Lined Notebook Paper



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>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chapel

Please join us on Thursday, October 29, at 8:30AM for our monthly chapel. Mr. Alex Foley is our scheduled speaker for our Reformation themed chapel. Everyone is welcome as we join together in worship.

Fall Music Festival

Our 5th-8th grade students will be gathering with students from area sister schools on Tuesday, November 10, for the annual Fall Music Festival. Students will come together for a band and choir concert at 7PM. Please note that this is on Tuesday night, not Thursday as in previous years. Mark your calendars and join us for an evening of worship and fellowship with our sister schools!

FUNDRAISERS

Check out our ongoing and upcoming fundraisers!

School Circle Sweet Treat Thank You

Peoria Christian School Circle would like to thank everyone for their recent support of our cupcake fundraiser! A total of 76 dozen cupcakes were sold for a total of \$912 raised. Congratulations to Holden De Nooy, Elias Laverman and Ellington Dunsbergen for selling the most cupcakes! We hope you all enjoyed your delicious treats!

Fall Book Fair!

Take some time to browse the beautiful books and gifts at this year's Fall Book Fair! Do some early Christmas shopping! Stepping Stones Bookstore will be setting up tables in the hall the week of October 26, with in-person sales on Thursday, October 29, during Parent Teacher Conferences, until 8pm. Available paper catalogs and the e-catalog (available at the Stepping Stones website and Facebook) will have Christmas sales already started. 15% of sales will be donated to the Peoria Christian School Library for new book purchases. Contact PCS librarian Maria Gesink at [724-372-2743](tel:724-372-2743) or bookstore owner Mindi Uitermarkt at [641-990-1381](tel:641-990-1381) with questions.

Bazaar Bake Sale – Delicious Donations Needed!

We need your delicious baked goods and confections for the bake sale at the annual Peoria Christian School bazaar on November 13. Cookies, bars, pies, bread, rolls, cupcakes, fudge, Christmas cookies & candy, jelly, jam, home canned fruit, vegetables, salsa, gluten free and/or dairy free items, etc. Your items must be in the gym by noon on November 13. Please label your items. Styrofoam trays, bags and labels will be available at school and in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church basement a few weeks before the bazaar. Questions? Contact Clarice Meinders (641-780-0126; email glennmeinders@iowatelecom.net.)

Peoria Christian School AUCTION & Bazaar

NOVEMBER 13, 2026

And my God will supply every need of yours according
to his riches and glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

BAKE SALE: 3:00-6:30 PM

BROWSE-N-BUY: 3:00-6:30 PM

COFFEE TIME: 3:00-4:30 PM

SUPPER: 5:00-6:30 PM

CHILDCARE IN THE SCHOOL: 6:45 PM

LIVE AUCTION IN GYM: 7:00 PM

Follow Peoria Christian Bazaar
Facebook page for auction sneak peeks!

