

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6



Calendar of Events

November	8	No School- Parent Teacher Conferences
	15	Picture Re-Take Day
	18	Progress Reports
	26	Grandparents Day
	27-29	No School- Thanksgiving Break
December	13	Christmas Concert
	20	End of Second Qtr/ 1st Semester
	23-31	No School- Christmas Break
January	1-3	No School- Christmas Break
	20	No School- MLK Day

Principal Prose

You've heard the saying, "If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." I don't know about you, but if that saying is true, I have made God laugh – a lot! Thankfully, I have learned over the years to "never say never" and be willing to follow where He leads. Last Friday night at our annual fundraising banquet I talked about the many unexpected plans God has had for me throughout my life. When I look back, I am in awe of how He equipped me for the future in a way I would never have imagined.

God has plans and He equips us for them if we let him. Isn't this what we want for our children? Every student should be equipped to accomplish God's plans for them because they were made for a purpose. The theme for this school year is "Made for More." It is important that our children understand that they were made by God for a purpose. Thankfully, God also didn't just leave us in our sinful state - He died to save us for a purpose - for His purposes. We were made to worship Him, to be in a healthy relationship with God and each other, to share the gospel, be a thankful people, serve others, and build one another up, just to name a few.

There are 3 main areas we are helping equip students at Tri-State Christian School. First, we are partnering with parents to help equip students spiritually. At Tri-State, we take very seriously the task of teaching students the centrality of the gospel in our lives and the importance of having a biblical worldview. We do this through teaching Bible as a subject, through our chapel program, by biblically integrating every subject, and being intentional about discipleship through relationships and ministry teams. Did you realize children will have over 14,000 hours of schooling from Kindergarten-12th grade? As I consider that number, I think, "What an opportunity!" What an opportunity to also use that time to give our children a solid foundation of Bible knowledge, help them develop a biblical worldview, grow in Christian character, and, most importantly, grow in their relationship with Jesus.

A second way we equip is academically. Tri-State Christian school has a history of academic excellence, but I hope to help the school develop even more in this area because there will always be room for growth. There are several ways I would like to help grow all of our academic programs. For instance, I would like to develop a variety of course offerings for our high school - courses which I hope students will be challenged by and enjoy. The goal is to equip them for the future, whatever that may be, because every student should be equipped to accomplish God's plans for them because they were made for a purpose.

A third way we can equip students is through character development. There are a lot of ways we work to develop character, but it really starts in the heart. When I talk with a student about something they have done wrong, we reflect on what is going on in their heart. Our teachers do this as well because we know that there won't be an outward change until there is an inner transformation. Developing Christian character takes patience and intentionality, but as parents are pointing their children to Christ at home, and we are pointing them to Him at school, Christian character is being developed and it is a beautiful thing.

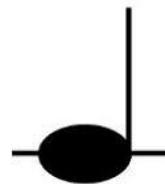
Tri-State Christian School truly is a wonderful school! We have some exciting things going on at TSCS every day. If you haven't liked us on Facebook, I suggest you do! You will get a glimpse of the many ways students are learning at Tri-State. Just a few of the things going on are: older students are working with younger ones, ministry teams and classes are planning community service projects, classes are learning hands-on by going on field trips, we are hosting author talks, we have drama students preparing for Chapel, Grandparents Day, and Christmas performances, and the list could go on! We have gone through a lot of changes but are excited about the Lord's plans for TSCS. This is our second year in Dubuque, we are now an accredited school with ACSI and Iowa recognizes us as an accredited non-public school. Our playground is up and in full use. We have new leadership in a new Principal and new Board President. Our enrollment went up 28%, from 98 students to 126. We had 48 new students this year!

The other exciting thing I want to announce is that we are proceeding with plans to build a gym and classrooms on our property! Although I can't tell you exactly when that will happen, if people give generously to the project and enrollment increases significantly again, we hope it will happen sooner rather than later. We are officially launching a "Growing and Building" campaign. The "Growing" arm of the campaign focuses on raising money to help us grow in a lot of ways through funding financial aid awards that have been given over the last 12-18 months. This aid is very important as it is helping a majority of the students at Tri-State. We need generous donors to help us raise money for this program. The "Building" part of the campaign focuses on raising money for the new building. This is an exciting time in our school's story, and also a monumental one. We will need everyone's support in a variety of ways to grow and build TSCS. How will you be involved? What might God be asking you to do in order to help grow and build our school so we can equip students both now and in the years to come? I would love to hear how God has equipped you to help!

Mrs. Amy Rush

5th Grade

We had a great time watching the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra on October 17th! They performed renditions of Yankee Doodle Dandy. The students really enjoyed attending. When we returned, we had an outside picnic!



DUBUQUE
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

6th Grade



6th grade has had a great start to our 2019-2020 school year! During our unit on the Renaissance we experienced what it felt like to be Michelangelo painting the Sistine Chapel while lying on his back. The 6th graders discovered the many challenges that he must have faced during that 4 year process!

We have also completed our first math investigation. Each student enjoyed creating a question, gathering data and displaying that data in a frequency table and histogram. We are looking forward to more great learning this year!



From the desk of Mr. Ells (Secondary Level Bible Teacher and Spiritual Dean):

It is my privilege to shepherd the hearts and minds of the junior high and high school students at Tri-State. I thought I'd provide you with a window into what each grade has been learning. Here is a little glimpse:

7th -8th: In junior high Bible we have been wrestling with the question of worldview. We have been defining worldview and beginning to build a Christian worldview from the ground up. A worldview is like a pair of glasses through which we interpret the world around us. With the wrong prescription, our view of reality is distorted. With this in mind, we turned our attention first to the discipline of Theology. What we believe about God is the most important thing about us. Our ideas about God will influence our approach to all other disciplines, like philosophy and ethics, for example. In our theology unit we began by considering the three major approaches to God (Atheism, Pantheism and Theism). From there we interacted with some of the arguments for God's existence. We discovered that God who is there, is also a God who speaks. God has spoken to us through general revelation (creation, conscience, etc.), but also through special revelation, through scripture and through Jesus, who is the "Word of God" made flesh (John 1:1-14). We spent time considering God's Triune nature and many of His attributes. In considering what God is like, the question was raised, how can this righteous God forgive sinners and not compromise His perfect justice? The divine solution is the death of Christ, where love and justice were perfectly displayed (Romans 3:26)! We recently completed our unit on Philosophy ("the study of truth, knowledge, and the nature of ultimate reality") and now we are delving into the discipline of Christian ethics where we will begin to see how our beliefs (about God and truth) affect our behavior.

9th and 10th: The 9th and 10th graders have almost completed a careful walk through the book of Acts. The students have learned that Dr. Luke compiled a two-volume work, Luke-Acts. The good doctor, in Acts 1:1 refers to his gospel as "all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven". By implication then, Luke's second volume (Acts) is what Jesus continued to do and teach, but now from heaven, by the Holy Spirit, through the Apostles. The title we have given the book of Acts, while a bit long, is: "The Words & deeds of the exalted Jesus, by his Spirit, through his chosen apostles". This has caused us to wrestle with the question, "Is this the kind of Jesus you believe in?" There are hundreds of versions of Jesus floating around in our world today. Luke however, presents us with a Jesus who *lived* and who *lives*. The authentic Jesus is the historic and yet contemporary Christ! He lives still! He is the risen and ascended Jesus who is still building his church today (Act 1:8). It is my delight to invite our students to be the living vessels through whom the living Christ builds his contemporary church! Next we study the epistle to the Galatians.

11th and 12th: In 11th and 12th grade Bible we have been inspecting and shaping the foundation for our Christian worldview. We began with the discipline of theology. We examined several of the arguments for God's existence, studied the themes of general and special revelation and reflected on the nature and attributes of God. With the foundation of theology in place, we are now taking on the discipline of philosophy. Some Christians think that philosophy is something to avoid, but scripture never warns us about the discipline of philosophy, only about certain doctrines of philosophy, which are "deceptive" (Col. 2:8) and "set themselves up against the knowledge of God" (2 Cor. 10:5). Currently we are looking at biblical resolutions to the problem of suffering and evil. One thing we have noted is that while we can't always know why God has allowed the suffering, we can know that our God relates. He "became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn. 1:14). He walked in our shoes. He got eye level with us and he experienced evil and suffering first hand. Our God is not remote. He is a sympathetic high priest" (Heb. 4:15).

For HIS Glory!

The TSCS lady Huskies high school volleyball season has been one for the record books! The team has set a number of school records and was blessed with a lot of success this year. Captain's Megan Reibling and Laura Fernandes picked Colossians 1:11 as our theme verse for the year. We need God to strengthen us with His power for endurance and patience as we navigate a long season. We are also called to do all things with JOY.



The girls have had a great season. We won our first tournament of the year. We finished second in our second tournament of the year and also received the Christian Testimony Award. We finished our season last weekend with a good performance at the ACSI tournament near Chicago. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the girls this season.

Thank You Coach Larsen



The junior high girls' team says goodbye to Coach Larsen. She started coaching junior high girls' volleyball in 2013 but after 7 seasons of coaching, she has decided to not return for next season. Coach Larsen plans to serve the school and its students in different ways next year. She has also helped coach the high school boys' volleyball team.

**Coach Larsen, we are
going to miss you and we
appreciate all you've done for
our volleyball program!**

