

WILLING WORKERS



Mrs. Lynn Hook

With the calendar year coming to a close we reflect on the past year and want to thank you all for your continued support.

The numbers are in for our recent Christmas Bake/Vendor Sale! Before expenses we took in \$946 for the vendor fair, \$6,493 for the bake sale, and \$2,165 for the poinsettia sales. Thanks to everyone who had a part in making this year's Christmas Bake/Vendor Sale a success!

A reminder that the pop can shed is open for drop off at any time. We have changed redemption centers and therefore glass and cans do NOT need to be separated anymore. The 'glass only' container located by the school will soon be removed.

Save the date!...for our upcoming Willing Workers auction on Friday, February 18. In addition to our live and silent auctions, plans are being made to serve a meal. The live auction will include class baskets and projects, and items donated from businesses and school supporters. More auction details and how to donate will be shared in upcoming school publications and on our school's Facebook page.

May God bless you and keep your family safe and healthy during the Holiday season. We look forward to seeing what God has in store for our school in 2022!



Boxtops for Education - Traditional Box Tops are being phased out of production but can still be found on many products as packages transition to the new Box Tops labels. You can still clip and send these to school if they have a valid expiration date.

Below are links to learn how to save boxtops by scanning them with your phone. More information can also be found on our school's website. If you have any questions about boxtops, please feel free to email Kari Fite at kari.fite@cir3.com.

The New Box Tops App: Scan for your school: <https://youtu.be/Hh94b2BvFK4>

How to scan: <https://youtu.be/v-bNcykyK5Y>

How to Submit Digital Receipts: https://youtu.be/ZfUGb_3JzZg

UPCOMING EVENTS @ OSCI

December 23-31	Christmas Break
Classes Resume	January 3
KK-8th Chapels	January 14
MAP Testing	January 17-20
History Fair	February 10
Pastors Day	February 11



726 North "E" St.
Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577

Return Service Requested

Other upcoming school events that we are looking forward to in 2022:

February 10	Jr. High History Fair
February 11	Pastors Day
February 18	Willing Workers Auction
February 22	Local Fine Arts for 6th-8th graders
March 3	District V Fine Arts
March 8	4th-8th Pops Concert
March 10 & 11	Parent/Teacher Conferences
March 14-18	Spring Break

COOKBOOKS FOR SALE!

The Oskaloosa Christian School Cookbook 2004 edition is filled with lots of delicious family favorite recipes! They are great gifts for Christmas, bridal showers, house warmings, or a keepsake for your OSCI graduate. Cookbooks are on sale for \$10 each and are available for purchase from the school office.



PUBLISHING INFORMATION
HIGHLIGHTS will be published monthly, with the exception of June and August, by the staff of the Oskaloosa Christian School. If you would like more information about Oskaloosa Christian, you can call the Principal, Don Mitchell, at 641-672-2174.

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December 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

Vol. 41 No. 4

PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

By Mr. Don Mitchell



Two years ago, the school board at Oskaloosa Christian School commissioned the formation of a building committee. Their purpose was to determine the feasibility of a capital campaign to address both current building needs and the possibility of school expansion to meet increasing enrollment and educational needs. The committee's first meeting was on January 14, 2020, and they met four times over the next two months to carry out their objectives. Then, the reality of COVID-19 came to bear, and the purposes of the building committee had to be put on hold as more pressing matters took precedence.

Fast forward to August, 2021. After prayer and discussion, the discussions of a capital campaign resurfaced, and plans were made to present those ideas to the people. At our 75th Anniversary dinner celebration on September 3, a short synopsis of the vision was shared, announcing that town hall meetings would be formed for a broader presentation to the Society at a later time. On October 26 and November 4, those meetings took place to further flesh out the vision for the future of Oskaloosa Christian School. That vision was presented in two stages. Stage one addresses current building needs, which encompasses a new roof, new windows, and several renovations to the current school building's interior, such as lighting, plumbing, and floor coverings. Stage two would be the addition of new space to the current school facility. Note: If you would like to see either of the town hall meeting presentations, please go to our website, oskaloosachristian.net, and scroll to the bottom of the page. There you will find a banner entitled 'Town Hall Meetings'. When you click on that banner, you will be redirected to a page containing two links, which are the recordings of the town hall meetings.

On December 2, 2021, a special Society meeting was called to vote on stage one of the proposal. Specifically, the motion addressed the exterior and interior needs of the current school facility. In an overwhelming show of support, the Society unanimously voted to move forward with stage one. Now, we are asking for your help. The overall project for interior and exterior renovations will cost around one million dollars. It is our intention to raise that money as soon as the LORD will allow it. However, we have a short term goal in place to get the project started.

Over the course of the month of December, it is our goal to raise a minimum of \$250,000 to be able to begin the renovations on the roof and the windows of the school in the summer of 2022. This would constitute one-half of the amount needed to complete exterior projects, with the other half to be raised over the first six months of 2022. We currently have \$125,000 in hand, and we praise God for His provision of those funds. Now, we are challenging our Society to match the \$125,000 already donated before December 31 so we can diligently strive to have the exterior renovations completed over the upcoming summer. To donate, you can send your gift to the school office, either by dropping it off during school hours, or by mailing it to 726 N. E Street, Oskaloosa, IA 52577. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Don Mitchell, school principal, at 641-672-2174 (school), 419-989-1961 (cell), or via email at mitchelld@oskaloosachristian.net.

We are excited that God has opened the door for this opportunity. We thank you for considering this important request, and we look forward to seeing His provision through His people. May the LORD bless you and yours with a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year, and, as always, we encourage you to remember the true reason for the season, the celebration of the birth of our LORD and Savior, Jesus Christ! All praise and glory be to Him Who was, Who is, and Who forevermore shall be!

1946-2021

The mission of Oskaloosa Christian School is to assist families in equipping children to be effective disciples of Jesus Christ.



For Generations to Come

For Generations To Come (FGTC) is our in-school tuition program. At Oskaloosa Christian School, we are aware that private school tuition requires sacrifice. This is why FGTC was created. We want to be able to help as many families as have need with tuition assistance to send their children to our school. Our goal for fundraising for the 2021-2022 school year is \$60,000.

Our Celebration of Friends brought in a little over \$21,000, which puts us on pace to achieve our goal. Our fall fundraising letter went out just after Thanksgiving, and we want to thank those of you who have already responded to that letter. If you have not given as of yet, there is still time to send in an end-of-year gift that will benefit families who need assistance in being able to provide a Christian education for their children. Would you please consider a gift for FGTC? Thank you in advance for your support, and may God bless each of you with a very Merry Christmas!

Legacy of Grace

SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATION

We would like to say a special thanks to all those who have donated to this year's Legacy of Grace STO. We have successfully met our goal for 2021 of \$413,264.00!

We are no longer able to receive donations for the 2021 calendar year. Thank you for being generous and helping families experience a Christ-centered education. We thank the Lord for his continued faithfulness to Legacy of Grace STO!

Attention, Pastors!

Our Pastors Day will be Friday, February 11, 2022. We look forward to inviting our Pastors to join us for the morning!

Attention, Grandparents!

Grandparents Day will be held Friday, April 29, 2022. Save the date to be our special guests for the day!

CHRISTMAS PARADE

On December 4, Oskaloosa Christian School participated in the annual Oskaloosa Parade of Lights. The parade theme was 'Miracle on Market'. Our float conveyed the theme 'The Greatest Miracle of All!'. The float was a projected nativity scene, portraying the greatest miracle the world has ever seen; namely, the birth of our LORD Jesus Christ.

Over forty Oskaloosa Christian students either rode the float or walked alongside, passing out candy to parade goers. Thanks to everyone who participated, and to our Advancement Committee for building our float.



Kinder Kamp

(aka kindergarten round-up)

We are excited for this year's Kinder Kamp, and plans have begun. The date has been set for Friday, March 4. The Kinder Kids teachers will use this day to assess the readiness of four-year-olds whose parents have expressed an interest in their child attending our school in the fall of 2022. If you are interested in Kinder Kamp for your child, or if you know someone else who is, mark your calendar for March 4! More details about this year's Kinder Kamp will be shared in January.

UPDATES NEEDED

We would appreciate your help in keeping our database records accurate. If you are a graduate, or have children who are graduates with recent changes in address, marriage, etc. please contact us so we can update our records accordingly. We would also like address changes of all other school supporters. Receiving updates is a big help in saving time for our office staff. **Thank you for your help!** Just e-mail the school office at westrap@oskaloosachristian.net, or call 641-672-2174.

TRIP News (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program)

Ordering Schedule

Mondays - order by 12:00 noon
Fridays - pick up 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Order dates:

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

No orders December 20-January 2

Quick facts: June 2021--to date:

Total Sales to date: \$160,000!

Tuition Credit Accumulated: over \$6,075!

Cash and Carry TRIP cards are available from the office on a first-come, first-serve basis: Amazon, Applebee's, Arby's, Bredeaux, Casey's, Culver's, Eagle's Nest, Fareway, Great Clips, Hy-Vee, JC Penney, Kohl's, Mahaska Drug, Maurice's, Menards, PC Mall, Pizza Hut, Pizza Ranch, Subway, Sunnyslope, Taco Bell, Taco John's, Target, Taso's, Tupperware, Two Rivers Pella, WalMart, Wendy's

REMINDER! We now carry both \$10 and \$20 Taso's gift cards in our cash and carry!

Want to make sure the cards are available when you need them? Submit your orders to the office by noon for local and national cards and they will be guaranteed by Friday of the same week!

Don't want to come into the office to place an order? No problem! Go to shopwithscrip.com and set up an online account. You can use a credit card or automatic withdrawal from your bank account. You will then have the option to use "ScripNow eCards" which allows you, for certain stores, to download a card for immediate use to your smartphone. For more information, go to www.shopwithscrip.com or contact Kristin Plate at 641-670-0583.



TfT Spotlight:

See the Story. Live the Story.
Our teachers are using TfT tools to create learning experiences that empower our students to play their part in God's Story.



Mrs. Kristin Van Zee Resource

Deep Hope: My deep hope is that we will keep our eyes on Jesus so that his love shines through us.

Storyline: Keep the Son in your eyes.

TfT Reflection: Hebrews 12:2 reminds us to fix our eyes on Jesus. My deep hope started as a desire for my students to understand that God created every part of them and has a plan for their lives. If they keep their eyes focused on Jesus, then the things of the world will fade away and lose importance in our lives. The only important thing will be what our creator has designed for us to do with our lives. Max Lucado's book, "You Are Special", is a great story that illustrates this idea for my students.



Mrs. Jana Boonstra 8th Grade, Jr. High Math and Science

Deep Hope- My deep hope is that we will be ROOTED in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, GROW deeper in our understanding of him, and BLOOM in seeing connections to our Creator.

Story Line - Rooted. Grow. Bloom

Verse: 2 Peter 3:18 "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

When creating my deep hope, I based it on a verse that has been part of my teaching. I feel that it is important for my students to be rooted in knowledge, but I hope they do not stay there. Over the last two years, my students have done a wonderful job of reflecting on my deep hope and making connections between Math and Science and God as our creator. For each Math and Science Unit the students reflect on 3 questions. 1) Are you rooted deep in the knowledge of our Creator? 2) Are you Growing in your understanding of God? 3) Are you blooming in seeing and grasping connections that point to our amazing Creator? I have been blessed and encouraged by the connections they make. Teaching for Transformation has given me a framework to intentionally teach from a Christian perspective. It has allowed me to point my students to Christ through the subjects of Math and Science. I continually reflect on how I can make more connections to our amazing Creator!

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

December

Special Board meeting December 2, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Present: Don Mitchell, Dan McKinney, Stacey Boender, Jim Eveland, Matt Drost, Eric Hol, BJ Boender, Lucas De Groot, Tim Westercamp, Janel Campbell

- I. Dan McKinney called the meeting to order and opened in prayer.
- II. Business - Changes to COVID-19 protocols
 - A. Don Mitchell brought suggestions to the board regarding changes to current COVID-19 protocols for quarantining and isolation.
 - B. Discussion took place.
 - C. A motion was made to send parents the updated protocols as discussed during the meeting. Motion seconded and passed.
- III. Jim Eveland closed in prayer.



Enjoy Christmas Artwork by our Kinder Kids!
Left to right: Callum Jorgensen, Bexley Pierson, Everly Pierson, Miley Nance, Kyah Briggs

ACTS OF KINDNESS

Miss Renee Van Kooten

On Friday, December 17, the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders delivered candy treat bags to several vehicles at the hospital here in town. It was fun to see the students place a little "joy" under the windshield wiper and then hopefully be a blessing to someone as they left the hospital on Friday. We also took candy bags to the Police Station, Courthouse, and Fire Station. Students went inside and were able to wish those there a "Merry Christmas". It was a wonderful way to end the week with the students and build community within the community!

