



Storm

Bulletin

Developing God's Plan in Hearts and Minds

December 4, 2009

From the desk of Principal Mark Luckey

Providence Christian High School exists to provide a Christ-centered learning community....

In the last issue of the Storm Bulletin, I took a feeble stab at what it means to be a Christ-centered school. The more I think about it, the more I realize how difficult it is to maintain "Christ-centeredness" over any period of time. With that in mind, I welcome your input as we try to live out our Christian faith at PCHS!

Over the next two weeks, I'd like to consider for a few moments what a *learning community* is. The two words work well together but are worthy of being discussed separately. I'll start with *learning*.

You could define learning this way: *The act, process, or experience of gaining knowledge or skill.* I've been in a lot different schools in many different countries over the years. On more than one occasion, I spent time in classrooms built for 15 but holding 40, with no desks and possibly nothing to sit on either, except the dirt floor, and one under-trained teacher standing up front telling the students to "repeat after me." Not exactly a place conducive to learning, yet even there, *some* knowledge and skills were gained, given enough time and effort. But that is not the type of learning we are looking for. We are looking to create an environment where significant, pertinent, critical thinking skills and knowledge can be gained, to a degree that allows our students to not only succeed academically, but more importantly, to impact the world for Christ.

If you would like to comment on this article visit the PCHS blog at www.theperfectpchsstorm.blogspot.com.

Chapel Highlights

Before our Thanksgiving break we had two Thanksgiving chapels, the first of which we shared with the eighth graders visiting for Shadow Day. During that chapel, we sang of our thanks to God, and we read scripture passages of thanks. On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, a number of students spoke of the things

for which they are thankful. Then we spent some time in a prayer of confession. Confessing our sins is not something we do very often, and when we do it, it is usually not around Thanksgiving. But what we learned is that our thankfulness to God is much deeper after confessing our sins. We can appreciate things such as Christ's love and salvation if we recognize our sin. While it is good to be thankful for all our material blessings, we were reminded by this chapel to be thankful for our spiritual blessings as well. In this Tuesday's chapel, we began our series of Advent chapels. During Advent we remember Israel's long waiting for Christ's first coming, and we also anticipate Christ's second coming. Each Advent chapel, we will light the candles of an Advent wreath. The wreath and candles symbolize the light and life that Christ brings to us in this world of sin and darkness. In this particular advent chapel, we heard the story by Walter Wangerin, Jr. "An Advent Monologue". This story made us think about how clearly we can hear God's voice at Christmas when we remember that He, the ruler of the universe, chose to be born as a helpless baby. Through this amazingly humble act, we clearly hear God telling us just how much He loves us.

Seven Day Forecast

Fri. 4	Sat. 5	Sun. 6	Mon. 7	Tues. 8	Wed. 9	Thu. 10
Girls' BBall Home	Student Council Christmas Party			Girls' BBall Home Boys' BBall Away		Donor Apprec. Recept. Boys' BBall Away
		36	36		33	

Long Range Forecast

Dec. 5	Student Council Christmas Party
Dec. 10	Donor Appreciation Reception 6-8:00 p.m.
Dec. 13	Christmas Concert 3:00 p.m.
Dec. 15	Junior Class Soup Supper 5-7:00 p.m.
Dec. 16	NCCTC Presentation for Sophomores 12:05-12:30
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	No School – Christmas Break
Jan. 4	School Resumes
January 6	Blood Drive at PCHS 9:30-3:15 PM

Storm Tracker

Sports Schedule

- Dec. 1** Girls' Basketball vs. Holton Away 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 4 Girls' Varsity Basketball vs. Northern Michigan Christian Home 6:00 p.m.
Dec. 8 Girls' Basketball vs. Newaygo Home 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 8 Boys' Basketball vs. Walkerville Away 5:30
Dec. 11 Boys' Basketball vs. Northern Michigan Christian Away 6:00
**Note: There is no J.V. Girls' Basketball game Friday, Dec. 4.*

Score Board

PCHS Varsity Girls' Basketball

Dec. 1 PCHS 52, Holton 32

PCHS J.V. Girls' Basketball

Dec. 1 PCHS 30, Holton 24

Quiz Bowl

Congratulations to the quiz bowl team for their outstanding performance in their recent Knowledge Master Open state and national competition. Academic Hallmarks in Durango, Colorado tabulated all of the results throughout the United States and released the results early this morning. Our contingent placed 1st in the state of Michigan among C-D schools.

Members of our 1st place squad were Kira Visser, Michael Pell, Amy Knuver, Matt Hale, and C.J. Miller.

Cancellation Policy

Providence Christian High School will automatically follow the bad weather cancellation announcement of the Fremont Public Schools. There may be times when, in the interest of safety for students traveling from outside the Fremont area, PCHS will close school even while the Fremont Public Schools remain open. Generally, if three or four of the school districts in the county close, PCHS will close. If one or two close, the situation will be evaluated, and a decision will be made as to what is best for PCHS. If PCHS closes, the closing will be posted on the TV and radio. If you can receive text messages, we recommend that you go on the WZZM site and sign up to receive a text message every time PCHS closes, delays, and/or cancels events. If at any time you believe that weather conditions make it unsafe for your child to attend school, your child will be excused and will be allowed time to make up any missed assignments.

Student Council Christmas Party

This Saturday, Dec. 5th is this year's Student Christmas Party. It will run from 7pm-10pm and be held at PCHS. Activities of the night will include a Scavenger Hunt, 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, and a Dodgeball Tournament. This year we will also have a Costume Contest. Students can come dressed as their favorite character from a Christmas movie. Students

will be awarded prizes for their costumes. We look forward to an exciting evening of food, fun, and fellowship as we celebrate the season of our Savior's birth as a Providence Family.

Angel Tree Toy Drive

We are hosting an Angel Tree Toy Drive here at Providence again this year. Show your gratitude to God for the gifts He has given you by buying a Christmas present for a child who would otherwise not get anything. Pick a tag off the Christmas tree in the office. Choose whatever age and gender you wish. Buy a present for the child. Bring the present back to school by Friday, December 11 and place it UNWRAPPED under the Christmas tree in the office along with the tag.

Junior Class Fund Raiser

Please support the Junior Class by coming to the Homemade Soup Supper Tuesday, December 15 from 5-7. Enjoy a variety of homemade soups, salad, rolls, and your drink for just \$7 for adults, \$4 for children 12 and under. The dinner will be held in the school commons during the Boys' Basketball games. Fund raisers at PCHS help raise money for things like paying for the junior/senior banquet, their senior class trip, and their senior class gift.

We Are Interested In What You Think!

You can help our school by taking a few moments of your time to complete the Pride Factor Survey. Go to pridefactor.jostens.com or find the link on our website. Call Marcy at 924.9780 for the appropriate password. This anonymous survey will allow us to gather helpful information for improving our school.

We will be able to divide survey takers into four groups – students, staff, parents, and community – so we can more accurately evaluate the responses. We hope to hear from you soon!

Drivers Needed!

PCHS students will be doing various service projects around the community on Friday, Dec. 11th. We are in need of drivers. If you can help please call Mrs. Poppen at 924-9780.

Appreciation Reception

So many of you have been a blessing to Providence Christian High School over the years! We invite you to join us, even if only for a few moments, on Thursday, Dec. 10 at Stone Lodge in Fremont so that we can say "Thank you" for all you've done. We know that this is a very busy time of year and our calendars are all full, but we hope that you can stop by for a few moments to reflect with us on how God has blessed our school through you. We will be there from 6-8pm for a very casual time of fellowship. Please join us if you can.