

THE PARK PARTNER

FALL 2019



PARK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

UNITY

PHASE 1



Leadership Program



WHAT I SEE...

Chris Nellermoe, *President*

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. (Matthew 5:14-15)

As I reflect on opening our doors for the 2019-20 school year, these words from the book of Matthew come to mind, and I am reminded of the great privilege we have to share the light of Christ-centered education with over 430 students at Park Christian School! Each day, we are equipping these kids to live as the light of the world and to shine for Jesus in all that they do.

From the groundbreaking ceremony in May of 2018 to receiving our 'certificate to occupy' last month, an incredible amount of work has been accomplished on the Phase One expansion plans at PCS. Over 20,000 sq/ft of new spaces have been created; state of the art science rooms were designed, plumbed, and equipped; 11 new classrooms have been constructed; 16 existing classrooms renovated; efficiencies were added to the HVAC systems; and flooring and lighting has been updated.

What a blessing to enhance the student experience at PCS; creating places and spaces for them to do their best work! As we continue to work through our strategic priorities, it is my prayer that Park Christian school would bring glory to God as a city on a hill and a bright light in the Fargo, Moorhead, and West Fargo community.



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MATTHEW 5:14-15





UNITY

The theme of UNITY (be encouraging, be real, be accountable), as chosen by our senior class from Hebrews 10:24-25, will guide us this year. Many of the upper-classmen have shared their desire to care deeply for one another this year, to be vulnerable, to take off the masks, to encourage each other and to lead courageously toward love and good deeds. We have seen this in action already through our chapels and Jr. High retreat and through the hundreds of hours that were generously given by the families of PCS to clean, scrub and prepare our school for opening day! We are better together, and we ask that you join us in encouragement and prayer to build unity in this amazing place we call Park Christian School.

We praise God for His hand over all of the work throughout the past year and for the generosity of so many. We stand together in UNITY, looking forward to the future with great anticipation!



AND LET US CONSIDER HOW WE MAY SPUR ONE ANOTHER ON TOWARD LOVE AND GOOD DEEDS, NOT GIVING UP MEETING TOGETHER, AS SOME ARE IN THE HABIT OF DOING, BUT ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER—AND ALL THE MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY APPROACHING. -HEBREWS 10:24-25



Senior Girls' Outing



Senior Boys' Outing

WITH PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE

MN State High School Coaches Association named **Dan Doeden** the Class A Girls Golf Coach of the Year.

In a recent posting on social media Dan shares what coaching has meant to him...

I haven't posted many updates this season for a variety of reasons. The Park Christian School Girls Golf team ended up taking 2nd at State, a heartbreaking 1 shot behind BOLD. Instead of being discouraged and thinking back through the shots we could have saved over the two day tournament, we prayed prayers of gratitude.

For the opportunity to compete.

For the relationships that blossomed.

For the life lessons learned through a goofy sport.

For the seniors who will no longer be with us next year.

For the younger girls who will lead the team next season.

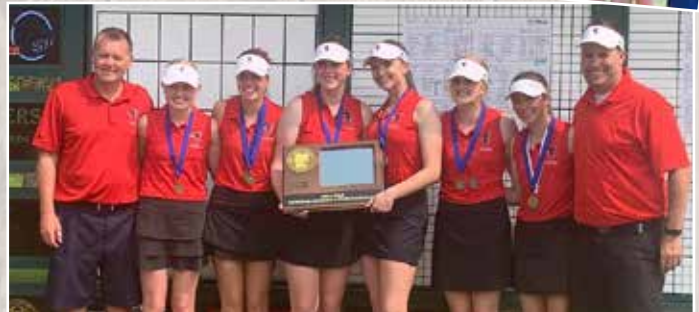
For the opportunity to glorify God with our words and actions throughout the year.

For the challenges we faced as well as the successes we were blessed with.

For the plan God has for each and every one of these girls as they approach the next stage of life.

At the end of the day, it's just golf. These girls understand their identities aren't found in a number on a scorecard but rather in their faith in Jesus. Congrats to BOLD, whose girls and coaches exhibited total class and are deserving champions. It's a bit counter intuitive, but we were actually rooting for each other while competing for the same goal. That's the spirit of golf AND life.

This team has taught me more about what it means to be a Christian than I could ever teach them about how to get a little white ball into a pretty small hole. For that I am grateful.



PCS ALUMNI - CLASS OF 2009 REUNION

The class of 2009 held their 10th year reunion this summer, including a tour of the newly expanded and renovated PCS. Thank you for coming back to PCS. We love our alumni!



POINTING OUR KIDS TO CHRIST

This is why we are at Park Christian School

My wife and I have four children, all at Park Christian School. Our oldest son, Stuart, is now 13 and just started Junior High. This is a terrifying situation for parents to be in. For those of you who have been here before, you know what I'm talking about. Something happens to the mind of a 13 year old. We are used to them being children, needing our guidance and help at every turn. But now they are starting to have these.....ideas. They start thinking and acting independently, often irrationally, but independently none-the-less. So it was with great trepidation that I agreed to be a chaperone for the Junior High Retreat to Inspiration Point. This trip would prove to not only test my olfactory willpower, but also prove to reinforce every reason that we love having our children at Park Christian School.

The recipe for the retreat is simple. Two days, no phones, no video games. Just two buses full of 7th and 8th grade students on a peninsula of land with only one road in or out and a goal of building relationships and community in an incredibly diverse group of kids. Easy, right?

We arrived at Inspiration Point Camp on Thursday morning. The programming for the event is pretty basic. A few teaching sessions, a couple of planned team building exercises, plenty of free time, good food and hopefully a little sleep. The kids made themselves at home quickly, and before long games of octoball, 9-square, and volleyball were underway. I saw kids laughing, playing together, and solving problems cooperatively on the

adventure course activities. They were, in fact, building a community. Park Christian School has orchestrated this event perfectly, and I'm glad to have been there to witness it.

However, what impressed me the most was that, more than just relationship building, this trip is also about challenging these young people spiritually. They are at such a pivotal point in their lives when their faith is (hopefully) becoming their own not their family's faith, but theirs. PCS made sure to take full advantage of having this captive audience and to challenge and teach our kids. Mr. Levang presented an illustration of Barabbas and encouraged the kids to consider what an amazing sacrifice Jesus made for us when he took our place on the cross. Mr. Larson challenged our kids to have faith that is more than just going through the motions. For one session the boys and girls were separated for specific talks targeted to them as young men and women. Mr. Levang presented the boys with four qualities of what it takes to be a man of God. Kaitlyn Cornell talked with the girls about....girl stuff?

Yes, the odors in the gym after 2 hours of dodgeball were intense, but it was definitely worth it to be there for this experience.

I have to tell you that our students are in great hands at PCS. The teachers and administration are partnering with us, pointing our kids to Christ. This is why we are at Park Christian School.

Tony Nelson



*Tony, Alissa, Stuart, Kate,
Titus & Zachary Nelson*

TRAINING UP LEADERS

Beyond bringing wonderful chicken sandwiches to the FM area, Chick-fil-A is bringing their national high school leadership program to PCS. This year, nine PCS students and Kimberly Flamm, the owner of the local restaurant, will be completing the yearlong online Chick-fil-A Leader Academy focused on the theme "Impact Through Action." The program consists of monthly Learning Labs centered on core themes of leadership. These themes will be put into action as the students look for ways to serve, culminating in an Impact Activity to be completed in the community. Special thanks to Kimberly Flamm for sponsoring PCS this year as we pilot and learn the program together. It is Kimberly's hope that all the schools in the area could have the Chick-fil-A Leader Academy present in their buildings.



CORPORATE SPONSORS

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| 702 Communications | The Krabbenhoft Real Estate Team |
| Advanced Business Methods | Life 97.9 (in kind) |
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| Bagan Strinden Vision | Mobile Pro I Studio 7 Productions |
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| BlackridgeBANK | Nepstad Oil Company |
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| The Office of Matthew De Vries | Skaff Apartments |
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| Hoiberg Construction | West Acres |
| Hornbachers | ZCON |
| ISR Homes | |
| Kayjay Ag Services Inc. | |
| Korsmo Funeral Service, Inc. | |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To get the most up-to-date calendar information, click on the calendar page of our website: ParkChristianSchool.org

- December 20* Alumni Game
- February 13* Giving Hearts Day
- April 4* Banquet & Auctions
- May 20* Baccalaureate
- May 24* Graduation
- June 1* PCS Golf Scramble
(at the Hawley Golf and Country Club)

Elementary Chapels: Tuesdays, 8:10-8:40 A.M.

Jr & Sr High Chapels: Tuesdays, 8:10 – 8:50 A.M.

MEMBER CHURCHES

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| Bethel Church
(since 1981) | River Valley Assembly of God
(since 1991) |
| Calvary Church at Village Green
(since 2014) | Salem Evangelical Free
(since 1991) |
| Fargo First Assembly of God
(since 1981) | Triumph Lutheran Brethren
(since 1996) |
| Metropolitan Baptist
(since 1993) | |

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