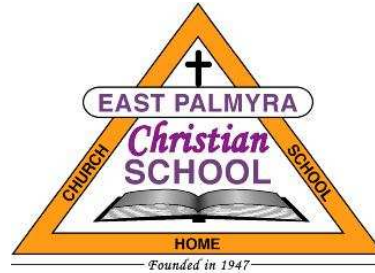


Through Our School Door

East Palmyra Christian School
2023 East Palmyra-Port Gibson Road
Palmyra, NY 14522
Phone: 315-597-4400
Email: epcsmail@rochester.rr.com
Website: www.eastpalmyrachristianschool.com



EPCS School Theme 2008-2009:
"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it."

Psalm 24:1a

EPCS Mission statement: *To offer a Christian educational alternative that integrates faith and learning through a Biblical worldview. We strive to equip our students to develop their gifts, to become discerning disciples, and to joyfully serve God in their life's calling in their community and world.*

October 6, 2008

Auction Reflections

For many of our churches, yesterday was World Communion Sunday. From the eastern coast of Labrador to the western coast of the Philippines and beyond, Christian churches of many denominations celebrated communion on this Sunday, and remembered that Christ's church is a worldwide church, one made up of people of different skin tones, languages, customs, and Christian denominations. In their morning service during communion, several Brighton Reformed Church members, for example, read out loud the names of all the countries on earth—our world belongs to God. "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it" (Palm 24:1) Christ's church: one in the Spirit, one in the Lord. Sharing communion, worldwide! Breaking bread together.

I can remember, as can the preacher at the church I attended, the various congregational, pot-luck suppers we attended when I was younger. I love pot-luck suppers! A variety of persons or families would bring a host of assorted recipes of foods, hot and cold, casseroles and salads, main dishes or desserts, and these were displayed on the tables, and then shared by all. I can remember the chatter of voices, the sounds of laughter, the hubbub of the business at hand, the (sometimes) cacophony of noise as we stood in line awaiting our turn to spoon up the food onto our plates, and then to sit down and enjoy. The preacher said that, for him, these dinners were theological activities! He said that every time we break bread together in this way, it is a symbol that we are the family of God, it is symbolic of God's grace poured out upon and through God's people. These times, in the breaking of the bread, God's people show commitment to one another and to their God. To be a Christian community is to break bread together!

I think that the "theological activity of bread breaking" happens each time we have an event at EPCS that includes dinners, whether it be at our ham dinners, spaghetti suppers, or pig roasts. And on this past Saturday, God's people, young and old, broke bread, often. On this past Saturday, God's people, young and old, were a symbol of God's grace, poured out on God's people. On this past Saturday, God's people, young and old, showed commitment to one another and to their God! From the outside eating tent, to the tea room, to the coffee room, to dining together under a tree on the grass, our community members gathered around lunches, desserts, and suppers, and broke bread. And they experienced God's grace!

Grandparents Day, soccer games, music and arts concerts, classroom activities, teacher meetings, developed friendships, dialoguing, parent-teacher interviews are all a large part of the EPCS community! But I think breaking bread is a special part of living in community. Sharing special times together is enhanced when we add food to the mix, when we have the opportunity to break bread. Those "eating" rooms were seldom empty, and they were always filled with chatter and the music of speaking, laughter, and communing with one another! They

were warm and inviting, filled with smiles and love. And, hey, no one wants to interrupt someone who is engaged in the joy and communal activities of eating... In breaking bread, God's grace is poured out, over and through us.

I stand amazed so often at how our community called East Palmyra Christian School takes time each October to foster community and to take time to break bread. This event we call "the Auction" is a forum for socializing, for fellowship, for showing commitment to a cause—financial and communal—in the face of economic hard times and cultural opposition, for renewing relationships, for laughing and talking together, for being challenged to look forward, for reaching deep into our pockets and wallets, for giving of ourselves even sometimes when we don't have much left to give, for caring for each other, for eating together, and for working side by side in this part of God's kingdom. In doing so we live in community, you and I, you and others! We show commitment to one another and to our God. And we allow God's grace to be poured out, over and through us!

How interesting that in the Lord's Prayer, after the lines, "Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," comes the line "Give us this day our daily bread!" Among the many other things this line embodies, it is as if Jesus is teaching us to pray for ample opportunities to "break bread" together. It seems that Christ wants this to happen!

Dinners, celebrations, going out for breakfast, sitting around the dinner table for supper, frequenting the tea room at the Auction, eating a barbecued Chicken dinner with friends. These are the times when we break bread together, times when we show commitment to each other, times when we experience the grace of God. I pray we may continue to break bread together often!

kv

EPCS Calendar

Monday, October 6, 2008

Soccer Practice until 4:45 pm

Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Soccer Match with St Paul Lutheran—4 pm **AWAY**

Wednesday, October 8, 2008

Faculty Devotions—7:35 am

EPCS Circle Meeting at 1:30 pm Please come!

Thursday, October 9, 2008

Pizza for Lunch today
Soccer Practice until 4:45 pm
EPCS Board Meeting 7 pm

Friday, October 10, 2008

Grandparents' Day!!!! See you here!!

Monday, October 13

Columbus Day—No School

EPCS Eagles 2008 Soccer Schedule

All games begin at 4 pm

Tuesday, October 14 Home School 2 **at** EPCS
Thursday, October 16 EPCS at Destiny School
Tuesday, October 21 Greece Christian **at** EPCS
Thursday, October 23 EPCS at Webster Chr
Tuesday, October 28 Home School 1 **at** EPCS
Thursday, October 30 St. Paul Lutheran **at** EPCS
Tuesday, November 4 Bye

~ Circle Meeting ~

The first Circle meeting of the year will be held at the school on Wednesday, October 8th at 1:30 pm. This committee provided almost \$10000 in school supplies and towards the budget last year. Presently 2 people are attempting to do the work of 8. Wont you prayerfully consider joining Circle? Please call Maggie (585-469-4042) and let her know if this time to attend will work for you. Thank you, may the Lord bless you for serving!

~ T Shirts ~

Someone left money for a t-shirt in the office last week, but left no order form. The cash was in a recycled envelope with "t-shirt" written on it, and no name. If this is from you, please call the office right away so we can complete the order. Thank you!

And Beyond....

Thurs/Fri Oct 23/24 OCSTA Teachers
Convention—No School
Tuesday, Nov 4 Election Day
Tuesday, Nov 11 Veterans Day—No School
Wed – Fri, Nov 19 – 21 Spruce Lake Retreat

~ **Soccer** ~

Drivers are needed to transport players to St. Paul Lutheran in Hilton. The game is Tuesday, October 7th. We will be leaving at 2:45. Please call the office and let them know how many players you can take. Also we may be stopping at McD's for dinner, so please send money with your child. Any questions call Jill Beckens 483-9027

~ **Cookies, please** ~

Each family is asked to send in a finger-food (fruit, crackers, breads, etc.) for refreshments for GRANDPARENTS DAY. If anyone is willing to help set up the refreshment table in the gym, please let Jean Starkenburg know. We look forward to welcoming grandparents and pastors to this Friday's special event!

~ **School Cleaning**~

Please make arrangements if you need keys to clean after hours. Remember to initial the calendar in the janitor's closet after you finish. Thank you!

This week

Mon. ~ Rose School
Tues. ~ Gardner
Wed. ~ Rosati
Thurs. ~ LaPoint
Fri. ~ Cramer

Next week

Mon. ~ No
Tues. ~ Fagner
Wed. ~ Doud
Thurs. ~ Rosati
Fri. ~ VanCamp

~ **Singing the blues** ~

With all the hard work over the years, the noises coming from the school refrigerator may indicate a need for a new one. Ideas anyone? Keep this need in your prayers.

~ **Cadets** ~

Will begin meeting starting October 15th from 6:30 - 8:00pm every other Wednesday at EPCS.

Any boys in 5th - 8th grades are welcome.

~ **Directory changes** ~

Kyle Mallabers birthday is 11/22/94.
Leslie Cushman's phone number is 573-7766.

~ **Preschool**~

Our Preschool & Kindergarten apple baskets sold for over \$85, so we are very thankful! We hope you enjoyed the events of Saturday! God is so good! He has richly blessed our school! We thank God for Cheri and Don Winslow for heading up all the work that went on for months leading up to the auction and for the

great organization and attention to the details of the day! So many answered prayers!

Preschool children and grandparents are invited to come to the grandparent's day program on Friday.

It is our **EE** week in preschool and we'll have lots of fun and learning together! Thursday is our Show and Tell.

~ **Kindergarten**~

We look forward to Grandparents Day this Friday! The program will start in the gym at 10, followed by a time in the classrooms with the students. Please invite your pastor as well. The Kindergartners will be so excited to have you visit our room.

If your child will not be riding the bus on Friday, please let the bus driver know.

We will be making more thank you notes this week to show our appreciation for all the great donations to the auction. What a wonderful and exciting Saturday it was! May God be praised for pouring rich blessings on our school and on all who worked so hard to make this event such a great success! It was so wonderful to meet new people and to see so many former students and families come back for this "homecoming" to our EPCS community!

Thursday is our Li and Jj Show and Tell.

We continue to pray for new students to join our class, so share that with your friends

~ **First and Second Grade**~

Bible: We are learning about the call of Abraham. Our Memory verse is Genesis 12:1-3.

Spelling: The second graders have a new spelling unit to work on. Be on the look out for homework.

Math: Both grades are working on new units.

Reading: Please continue to read for 15 minutes every day.

Note: Don't forget that Grandparents' day is this Friday starting at 10am.

~ **Third and Fourth Grade**~

Social Studies: We will be continuing to learn about the environment of New York. The instructions will be coming home this week for the end of the unit project. Part of it will be done in school, but your child will need your assistance in brainstorming ideas and drawing the map. This will all make sense when you see the instructions.

Spelling: Lesson #4 lists are coming home today. Our practice test is on Wednesday and the final test is on Friday.

Reading: We will start literature circles this week. We will be reading *Freckle Juice*.

Bible: We will continue to learn about Moses in the book of Exodus. The students should have brought home their memory verses for this unit. When they have it memorized they may recite it for me. It needs to be memorized by the end of the unit. I will let you know when we are getting close to that point.

Math: Third graders will work with adding and subtracting two and three digit numbers. Fourth graders will work with estimation and adding and subtracting three and four digit numbers.

~ Fifth and Sixth Grade ~

Auction Basket: Thanks to Suzanne Erway for putting together a great basket, and thanks to all who contributed!

Math: Fifth graders start a unit reviewing multiplication of large numbers. Sixth graders will have a test on Wednesday over number theory, including rounding, estimation, and principles of computation.

Social Studies: We will continue looking at the physical and political geography of North America, including Central America.

Spelling: Practice test on Wednesday, final test on Friday.

~ Seventh and Eighth Grade ~

Bible: We will look at the place that Israel holds in the story of the Bible, and start on a quick look at the birth and life of Christ.

American History: We will be finishing up our current chapter this week and working on our end of the chapter project which will be a TV advertisement to entice more people to come over to the English colonies. I will give class time to work on the projects and set a due date for them later this week. I assigned the chapter review to be due on 10/13. There will be time in class to work on them as well.

~ Ninth Grade~

Global Studies: We will be continuing our unit on Ancient Egypt. This will we will be looking at their style of communicating and their religious views.

~Band Lessons~

Tues. 9:30 Noah C. 10:30 Paul 12:40 Ben

Wed. 12:40 Emily

Thurs. 9:05 Kaitlyn 10:00 Jessica 10:30 Andrew
12:40 Ciara, Mara

Fri. No lessons.

~ Spanish ~

Assignment sheet: All 7/8/9 students have an assignment sheet that covers all of October! This sheet also indicates when quizzes and tests will be

given. Students are responsible for making any changes needed on the assignment sheet. I also plan to have the assignment sheets available in my locker on Gaggle very soon.

Spanish Dictionary and Study Guides: I have ordered these and they should be delivered by mid-week. Here are the totals: Ballesty: \$9.66; Bartlett: \$9.66; Buttaccio: \$19.27; Cramer: \$13.49; Doud: \$9.66; Knaak: \$5.78; Lamar: \$5.78; McKaig: \$19.27.

Totals include tax. I was able to get free shipping, plus I used my B&N Membership and got 20-25% off! Please make out checks to Janet A Brusso. Thank you!

Spanish 7: We are learning the numbers, working on 30-100 early this week before moving on to learning how to tell time. Please encourage your 7th grader to learn the spelling of the numbers.

Spanish 8: We just finished a review of direct and indirect object pronouns. This completes Unit 5, so we will begin review of Unit 5 and then there will be a unit test.

Spanish 9: We are reviewing ser vs. estar, the present progressive tense, and two verbs used together in a sentence. We have almost completed Unit 1, and then we will be reviewing and having a Unit test. Unit 2 will again be review, but with more new vocabulary presented. Unit 3 will have totally new concepts to learn!

Spanish 5/6 We continue our study of command forms. Students are able to give or follow the commands: Stand up, walk to the door, open the door, close the door, walk to the desk, sit down. Also: open/close the window, jump, turn around.

Spanish Buddies: We will alternate weeks between Grades 1/2 and Grades 3/4. Grades 1/2 met with their 7th grade Buddies last Friday, Oct 3rd. Grades 3/4 will not meet with their 8th grade Buddies again until Friday, November 7th. This year we will study the alphabet, the colors, and parts of the body.

Make ups and extra help: Students have indicated that they wish to make up work or to obtain extra help. I am available after school on Tuesdays and Fridays on a walk-in basis, and Thursdays by appointment only. I am also available during recess, except on Tuesdays.

~ Circle News ~

Hot Lunch News: Soup, Chili, grilled cheese sandwiches and dessert made by Kit DePerna. Helpers are Kit DePerna, Ashley Conley and Maggie Cosh.

Breen's and Tops Cards are available in the office if you'd like to purchase them. They are like

having a prepaid gift card. The school gets 5% back on these sales.

Box tops and Labels are still being saved throughout the year. Please save the Campbell Soup (entire label – especially the UPC code) labels and the Box Tops for Education labels from selected products. Thanks!

Items for Sale: Book Sox, Water Bottles, Cookbooks, Napkins, Cards, Rada Cutlery. Check with one of the secretaries and they can show you the selections we have available.

Old Cell Phones, Empty Ink Cartridges and Rinsed Pop Cans are still being collected. This is an easy way to raise \$\$ for the school.

Buy-A-Brick If you've been thinking about purchasing a brick to honor, or in memory of a loved one, please contact Sue Priem at 597-5420 for information.