

# of good re**REPORT**



A PUBLICATION OF PORTLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



## A MILLION REASONS TO BE THANKFUL

Kosair Charities chooses to gift  
Portland Christian School with \$1 million dollars  
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#myPGSlegacy

SUMMER 2017 EDITION

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# A MILLION REASONS TO BE THANKFUL

## Kosair Charities chooses to gift Portland Christian School with \$1 million dollars

by Ruth Schenk, special to OGR

An unexpected, incredible gift is both exciting and humbling.

On April 11, Kosair Charities gave Portland Christian School a gift of \$1 million dollars for any needs the school has for the benefit of all of our students. They also gave \$1 million each to Pitt Academy, Summit Academy of Greater Louisville and Meredith-Dunn School. The \$1million gifts to each school are being given in installments of \$250,000 per year for four years.

According to Randy Coe, president of Kosair Charities, gifting Portland was a good choice.

“This gift to Portland Christian School fits our mission to make the lives of children better,” he said. “All God’s children should have to chance to reach their full potential. It’s a privilege to be part of the Lord’s work.”

Jerry Ward, the chairman of the board of directors at Kosair Charities, said that this gift honors the work of teachers and staff at Portland Christian.

“They give every child the opportunity to succeed” he said. “This will give children a chance at a better life.”

Jodell Seay, executive director at Portland Christian School, said it’s hard to find words to adequately express the depth of their gratitude.

“This is an intervention on Portland Christian School’s timeline; today is a marker that God wants us to serve

more families. We are humbled and deeply grateful.”

Kosair Charities and Portland Christian School share a passion to help children.

Kosair Charities was founded in 1923 to help children who needed long-term medical care regardless of their condition or financial standing.

Portland Christian School began in 1924 to meet the educational and spiritual needs of children in the community. It has always been committed to keeping their education affordable and accessible to all families regardless of their financial standing.

In the last 94 years, Kosair Charities has grown to support more than 100 pediatric agencies in the Louisville and Southern Indiana Community. Outreach includes CASA, which supports children in the court system, the Epilepsy Foundation, Huntington’s Disease Foundation, Louisville Metro Police Foundation, Spina Bifida, Trust for Life, and U of L’s Autism Center, Pediatric Center, and dental clinic.

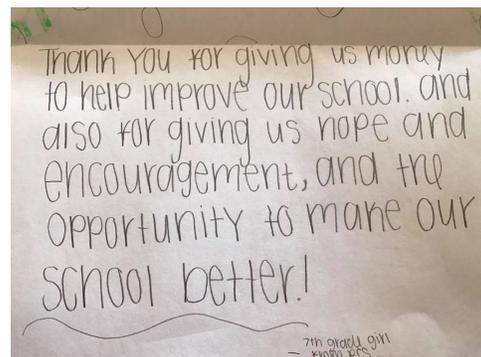
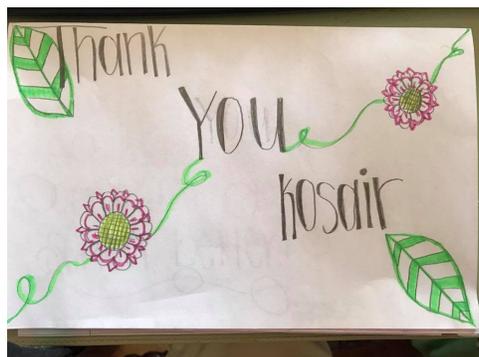
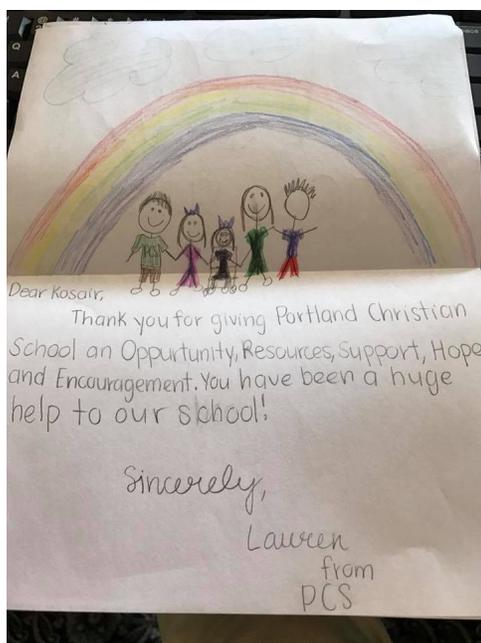
Portland Christian School also has grown and moved to a larger campus. However, deep commitment to children has never changed. Every child is celebrated. That includes international students, children everywhere on the learning scale, children who excel academically and those who are gifted in the arts.

Above all, Portland provides a strong foundation of faith for all children.

“All God’s children should have the chance to reach their full potential.”

## GIVING THANKS...

As a way of showing their own gratitude for the generosity shown by Kosair Charities, students from Portland Christian created and sent a number of Thank You notes to the organization.





# a DAY OF Service

by Ruth Schenk, *special to OGR*

**Wearing aqua blue t-shirts** with the words, “Know Him and make Him known,” Portland students fanned out over the city of Louisville for Great Day of Service on Monday, March 27.

With Portland mom Bethany Kennedy at a Klothe-a-Kid storage garage, one group of students sorted shoes, sweatshirts, dresses and shirts. At the Lord’s Kitchen they painted and de-iced freezers, and at Louisville Rescue Mission, they served the homeless. At two local nursing homes, they visited with residents.

These days “make faith come alive,” said Sarah Goul. “Serving like this is shining the light of Jesus.”

Serving is a 98-year-tradition at Portland

Christian School, where teachers served the community and at-risk children who needed a helping hand. While the brick and mortar of the school has changed, the purpose remains the same—“to know Him and to make Him known.”

Students learn about faith in school. They use it everywhere else—on the basketball court and baseball field, in school competitions and in the community.

At the Lord’s Kitchen warehouse where students painted, de-iced a freezer and worked on projects in the warehouse, ninth-grader Brandon Ferry said serving helps organizations, but it also helps those who give throughout the day.

“This is a way to make Jesus known through

acts of kindness,” he said.

No task was difficult. Students breezed through organizing, cleaning and serving.

Kendal Istre said serving with friends was fun. So was learning about organizations such as the Lord’s Kitchen and Louisville Rescue Mission on the front line of serving every day.

At each location, students learned about the mission and vision of the organization.

At the Klothe-A-Kid storage garage, Bethany Kennedy told students how outreach began after a downturn in the economy, about taking socks to at-risk youth and about regular outreach in Eastern Kentucky.

“We are a magnet for people in need,” she said.

*see, Day of Service, page 6*

# IT'S ELEMENTARY!

News from K-6

by Dr. Camille Gray, elementary school principal

## We Love Well!

At Portland Christian School, the love of our students and each other permeates every activity on our campus. We love, because Christ first loved us; we give of ourselves in and by the spirit of our Lord and Savior, entirely and sacrificially for the fulfillment of the great plan and purpose gaining Holy Spirit momentum within every Portland Christian School student. The calling is as profound as it is precious; and we are honored to serve you.

## It was a Mystery!

The acting and singing talent emerging from the elementary school is remarkable and was on glorious display during the winter musical on January 26<sup>th</sup>. "Jonah and the Big Fish", performed by Portland Christian School students in Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, entertained and inspired the standing room only audience and left onlookers looking forward to seeing and hearing more from our extremely gifted elementary school students.

## Say it With Science

The great minds of our 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders were a show of scientific and creative force as we gathered for the annual Elementary Science Fair on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Students used the elements of the scientific method to create presentations on topics such as the science of "Deflate-Gate", exploring the life of elephants, and an examination of the impact of throwing water bottles on hard surfaces.

## Dancing with Fathers

On February 10<sup>th</sup>, Portland Christian School hosted its first "Hearty Party" (Daddy-Daughter Dance). Under soft gilded lighting of blush surroundings, Portland daughters celebrated the men of God in their lives with dancing, dessert and lively conversation. Here is a poetic portrayal the events of the evening:



### The Daddy-Daughter Dance

A knight shining in the dainty light of his daughter's eyes--  
sparkling on account of a smile devoted entirely to this moment;  
and for an hour or two, she is his undivided attention,  
and for one hundred and twenty minutes  
on a Friday before bedtime,  
Daddy does not divvy his day  
among his adult cares and concern.  
A few dances on her daddy's shoes  
join forces with girly banter around the cupcake table  
and primping while waiting her turn at the pink punch bowl  
to create the perfect night for each princess and her knight.

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# IT'S ELEMENTARY!

*continued...*

## Spell Check

The ACSI District Spelling Bee, hosted by Whitfield Academy, featured 11 Portland Christian School students from 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Parents and students enjoyed a day of fellowship with over 350 spellers from ACSI-accredited schools in Kentucky. Through every round, each more challenging than the next, our spellers represented Portland Christian School with exceptional courage and grace.

## Passion for Prayer

At Portland Christian School, we know that God has an individual purpose and plan for each student. It is a blessing to partner with our families to nurture the seeds of purpose in our students' lives. During chapel services on February 23, elementary teachers joined together to pray for every elementary student on our campus. As they took a moment to sit at the desk of every student in their respective classrooms, teachers prayed blessings of provision, prosperity and clarity of purpose. Students also prayed for their classroom and special area teachers, asking God to bless them with peace and patience, as well as the courage, joy and strength to finish the year with the same excellence with which the year began.

## God is Moving! Stay Tuned!

The remainder of the year was full of exciting events and adventure! There were prayer walks and inspiring chapel services; 5<sup>th</sup> grade spent the night at the Louisville Science Center in April and we hosted our annual Nations Fair in May; The 6<sup>th</sup> grade traveled to Chicago on March 29<sup>th</sup>; and Elementary School Field Day and the last day of school will be here before we know it. God is moving!

# ROCK the JUKEBOX

*From doo-wop to rock-a-billy, this year's 4th-6th Grade Spring Program was full of classic tunes as the student's presented, "Jukebox Time Machine," a fun look back to the early years of Rock and Roll.*



# A Day of Service is a win for organizations and students

*continued from page 3*

At the Lord's Kitchen, students met Jonathan Holt, who oversees outreach to some 600,000 people a year. People lined up in the rain for lunch as students worked.

Each week, the Lord's Kitchen partners with Dare to Care food bank to give away 5,000 to 7,000 pounds of food.

"As we meet day-to-day needs, a lot of things that should be done are overlooked," Holt said. "These students are making a difference with all they do. It's encouraging for us, for volunteers and even clients to see them give up a day to help."

Portland teacher Jordan Goings watched the Day of Service unfold.

"I'm humbled to be part of Portland Christian School," he said. "God is working here. I see that students are loved with Christ's love. The faculty and administration feel like part of the bigger Portland family. This school has an amazing legacy of service and faith that continues today."

**KNOW  
HIM  
and make  
HIM  
KNOWN.**



*Students from Portland Christian School participate in the city of Louisville's Great Day of Service in March.*



*Bethany Kennedy, who attended PCS as a child, and who now sends her kids to Portland, stands in front of a storage garage used for her organization Klothe-A-Kid, which serves the underprivileged of Eastern Kentucky.*



# THE BROADCASTER

## Exchange Students at Portland

By: Kristin Lewter



Portland students Maggie Moffett (left), McKenzie Childers (center), and Kristin Lewter (glasses), say goodbye to Pichi and Mafer on their last day of school before returning to Guatemala.

This year Portland was, again, granted the opportunity to host three exchange students from Guatemala for two months. This year we were honored to have not two but three exchange students Maria (Mafer) Lopez, Luz (Pichi) Mazariegos, and Maria (Mafer) Ibarra. Being able to host exchange students has opened the doors for new opportunities and many new friendships for the students at Portland Christian School.

Sophomore Mackenzie Childers had the opportunity to host for a second year in a row. She got to host a young lady named Pichi. When asked how she felt about having another opportunity, she said, "I was really looking forward to hosting someone from a different part of Guatemala. Pichi was much different from Eileen [the young lady she hosted last year] and I really enjoyed the experience." She said, "Pichi was full of life but enjoyed her alone time. She was very smart and loved people." Mackenzie said being a host was a blessing and she would jump at the opportunity to host again.

Madison Skees, a junior who was a first time host, opened her home to Mafer Ibarra. When asked how she felt about the experience she said, "It was amazing...it's like I found myself a sister. Mafer was hilarious and funny and super caring. Whenever I had a problem she was there for me and would talk to me like a true sister." Madison actively keeps in touch with Mafer and is even going to spend a month in Guatemala later this year.

## Ten Little Chipmunks

By: Eamer Zhao and Kristin Lewter

The Senior play has been a tradition for seniors at PCS for a long time. This year, our seniors performed the play, "Ten Little Chipmunks." It was amazing! It also raised a lot of money for their senior trip.

Jordan Wells, who played Mrs. Chips, said that it was fun and her previous drama experience helped her. Destin Wilhite, who played Nick, said he really enjoyed it and wished that he had taken drama all four years of high school. Chris Embree, who played Noah, said that he really enjoyed developing his character. "It was a lot of fun being someone other than yourself for an hour and a half." The play was a fun experience for both drama students as well as those who had never been in a production before.

The seniors worked a lot on this play, from the acting to sound and light set up and controls, to learning lines. Everyone had been practicing for this play for a long time. They had a lot of rehearsals that were late at night, but the seniors were really happy that people came and enjoyed their play.



## Completing Our Goals (AND Update)

By: Zach Lowman  
(Update by Christopher Embree)

As the PCS athletic program broadens, we expand into a new sport – soccer! With soccer being a new sport for us, we here at Portland were excited for a new year of fun. We asked Coach Caleb Bengé what he would like to get out of the year and will soccer be a long term sport here at Portland. He responded with the following, "We want to look back and say we have had fun and not to think about wins and losses." UPDATE: While the soccer team didn't have a win on their record, they had many successes playing and enjoying the game.



### **Pride and Prejudice**

By: Lydia Cyrus

The classic love story of *Pride and Prejudice* was recaptured by the Portland drama department on March 24th and 25th. To the audience it appeared to be a seamless production, but what they didn't see was what it took for it to all come together. The drama students, after rehearsing a certain scene many times, fondly nicknamed it "The Parasol Scene," where Ruth Dye practiced hitting Josh Howard and Danny Philpott with her umbrella. Another memory was Mr. Darcy's (Jonah Trejo) infamous line, "Every savage can dance." The cast got a kick out of it because they got to see their quiet and polite friend, Jonah, become arrogant and prideful. And no one who was a part of this production will forget the countless giggles shared between the younger Bennett sisters throughout the making of the play. Everyone experienced moments of laughter as they learned their 19th century role.

# CONGRATULATIONS!



...to Keller Mackey for being chosen as a Kentucky Governor's Scholar for Summer 2017! PCS is proud of you!



Congratulations to Abigail Lynn and Charlie Bowlds on being chosen by their peers to be Mr. and Miss PCS 2017! It is an honor well-deserved.



# STEM SCOUTS

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) scouts participate in numerous learning activities. The extracurricular program is offered for students in grades 3-12.

by Dr. Jason Mackey, high school principal

New at Portland Christian School this year is a program that seeks to challenge and inspire students in the specific areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Called STEM Scouts and sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America, this program meets once a week after school and is open to 3rd through 12th grade. For less than the cost of after-school care, students can join with others in weekly labs that indulge their natural curiosity about STEM fields. Whether it is

investigating water quality, designing and creating a pneumatic arm, or working with cyber security, students learn the basics of scientific inquiry and engineering design, lab safety, and character development. We are excited about all the great things happening in STEM Scouts.

If you are interested in volunteering as a leader and helping to mold the next generation of scientists, contact Debra Childers at 502-429-3727.



## it's the LITTLE things... a PCS LITTLE SCHOOL update

by Debbie Sprinkle, Little School director

As part of the life and ministry of PCS Little School, our children, though small, have had the opportunity to participate in three mission projects this school year.

- We sent cards in November to veterans and those active in the military, thanking them for their service.
- Our families were invited to join us in writing notes of encouragement to doctors and nurses who care for cancer patients.
- We provided a meal for the Lyndon Fire Department and had prayer with them asking the Lord to protect them as they serve our community.

The Lord continues to place special people and little ones in Little School for His honor and Glory. Yes, we are Portland Christian Little School, where God does BIG THINGS through little hands and feet.

# LONG-TIME PCS SERVANTS PROMOTED TO GLORY

by Jodell Seay, executive director



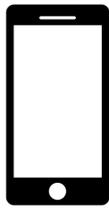
**Sister Rita Napier Smallwood**, 83, went to be with the Lord on March 2, 2017. She served the Lord, students and staff of Portland Christian School for over thirty years. She and her husband, Bill, graduated together from PCS in 1951. After they married, they spent the next 54 years working hand in hand at PCS, in various Churches of Christ, and at Woodland Bible Camp. Bill served as the Business Manager for PCS while Rita served in the front office and as admissions coordinator. Sis. Rita was a champion for the student who seemed like the long shot. Because of Sister Rita's sensitivity to the needs of applicants, many students were welcomed to PCS that may have not been considered guaranteed successes – I am one who was blessed through Sis. Rita's prayers and petition to the Lord and to the Admissions Committee on my behalf. There are scores of students who are PCS graduates due to Sis. Rita's confidence in their potential in Christ. We are so thankful for the legacy she set in motion.



**Brother Alex Wilson**, 79, went to be with the Lord on February 20, 2017. He was a man who faithfully followed the Lord's call to minister to others. He taught at Portland Christian School for three years before he and his wife Ruth moved to the Philippines, where they served as missionaries for twenty years. Bro. Alex was a 1955 graduate of PCS and his children attended PCS while on furlough and after they returned to live in Louisville. When they returned from the Philippines in 1983, he and Ruth led the Portland Avenue Church of Christ congregation and served the community selflessly. Bro. Alex also served on the PCS board of directors for many years. He loved all. He served all. He was one of the most knowledgeable, godly and humble men I have ever known. He lived so well. His wife and children are a testimony to his love of Christ.

# #myPCS

Help us Tell the Story of What God Has Done at Portland Christian School.



Grab your mobile device and snap a photo or video that captures the life of Portland Christian School.

+



+



@PortlandChristianSchool

Be sure to follow PCS on Facebook and Instagram to see what's happening in the life of the school!

*Use these #hashtags to help tell the story...*

**#myPCSlife**

*for everyday happenings*

**#myPCSseagles**

*for all things sports-related*

**#myPCSlittle**s

*for the joy of Little School*

**#myPCSstory**

*for how PCS shaped your life*

**#myPCSservice**

*for those Matthew 28 moments*

**#myPCSlegacy**

*for how you or others are giving back*

<sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. <sup>10</sup> And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. - 1 Peter 5:6-11 NIV



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PCS SENIOR CLASS OF 2017

Jacob Daniel Barnett  
 Carolina Grace Bevin  
 Charles Patrick Bowlds  
 Cody Nathaniel Brangers  
 Ilyvia Beth Carter  
 Ruth Ann Dye  
 Christopher JohnMark Embree  
 Sydney Renee Gregory

Emma Elizabeth Hill  
 Mackenzie Marie Idleman  
 Nicolas Wade Istre  
 Graham William Jennette  
 Claire Hannah Landers  
 Kristin Brianna Lewter  
 Abigail Mackenzie Lynn  
 Emily Nicole Scott

Lindsey Marie Siegel  
 Kaden Scott Sites  
 Jordan Danielle Wells  
 Destin Anthony Wilhite  
 Victoria Grace Wilkerson  
 Madysen McKinley Williams  
 Zachery Monroe Wilson  
 Tongyao Zhao



#myPCSLegacy

# DISTINGUISHING HONORS

## Schreiner, Witten, and Miller receive special recognition at 2017 Alumni Banquet

On Saturday, April 29, the PCS Alumni Association held its annual banquet to welcome the incoming graduating class of 2017 and to recognize three individuals who have made an impact on countless individuals through their service at Portland Christian School and the larger community. Betty Ann Schreiner and Darryl Witten received the Distinguished Alumnus Award, and board member Dan Miller received the Honorary Alumnus award. Congratulations to these special individuals, and thank you for your service!



PORTLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
8509 WESTPORT ROAD  
LOUISVILLE, KY 40242

of good  
**re**PORT

Join us...



Save  
the *Date*

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**  
**6:30 PM | THE OLMSTED**  
*Silent Auction to begin at 5:30 PM*



featuring special  
guest speaker  
**RUTH GRAHAM**



**PORTLAND**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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**CELEBRATION DINNER**