



# CROWN CHRONICLES

*Your Weekly Email Connection to CLCA*

Show Me Your ways Teach Me Your paths Guide Me in Your truth

Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. Psalm 25:4-5

CLCA 2025-2026

## Week #20, January 12, 2026

### CLCA Mission Statement:

Crown of Life Christian Academy exists to serve its community through the proclamation of God's Word, the pursuit of academic excellence, and the establishment of meaningful relationships with the children and families it serves.

### **Administration's Message- Additional Information**

#### **2026-2027 CLCA Enrollment**

The CLCA 2026-2027 enrollment process for current CLCA families will be open from January 6 to January 31.

All families with returning scholars going into **grades 5K-8** will receive an email from TADS. Scholars going into Kindergarten and First grade will need to use this link to add your child to your TADS account or create one if you do not already have an account. Please complete this process as soon as possible. **2K-4K families** will complete the process in Brightwheel.

#### **End of the 2nd Quarter**

The 2nd Quarter ends **on Friday,**

**January 16.** It's a great time to check in with your scholar(s) and encourage them to come back to school with determination and perseverance to finish up the quarter. Please review PowerSchool to identify any missing or redo work.

#### **MLC Students Shadowing**

We are excited to have Alex Marty and Cooper Jensen visiting our Berea campus this week, as they will be shadowing teachers. Both Alex and Cooper are sophomores at MLC and aspire to teach/serve at a school such as Crown of Life. Welcome, boys!

#### **Pinewood Car Derby 2026**

CLCA Friends and Family members from age 2 to 102 are welcome to take part in the annual Pinewood Car Derby!

Participants will work on building their cars during four Saturday workshops at CLCA, leading up to the **Derby on**

**February 14!** We thank friends of CLCA, David & Catherine White, for spearheading this fun family event. **The first workshop is on January 17.**

#### [PINEWOOD CAR DERBY DETAILS!](#)

#### **Parent / Teacher Conferences**

#### **Scheduling Open**

Second Quarter Parent/Teacher Conferences for 2K-8th grade families will take place on Thursday, January 29, and Friday, January 30 at both campuses. Please use the scheduling form below to sign up. These conferences will be student-centered, and scholars are expected to attend for part of the conference. They will lead a brief presentation to celebrate their successes and share goals they are working toward for the remainder of the school year.

#### [2K-5K BETHANY CAMPUS SIGN UP](#)

#### [1ST - 8TH BEREAS CAMPUS SIGN UP](#)

#### **Upcoming CLCA Events**

- Jan. 14 A2 Girls/A2 Boys Home BB
- Jan. 16 BB Away at Holy Cross
- Jan. 16 End of the 2nd Quarter
- Jan. 17 B-Boys Tourn at St. Matt Ocon
- Jan. 17 Pinewood Car Workshop #1 Berea
- Jan. 19: No School

#### **Wisconsin Author, Amanda Zieba**

We are thrilled to have Amanda Zieba making her second visit to CLCA classrooms - the last one was in 2023. If anyone would like to purchase books, please do so by January 19th, so she can autograph and deliver the books in person! Click here to:

#### [ORDER BOOKS and Personalize the Autograph!](#)

#### **Crown Community Updates**

Our Crown Community board continues to work hard behind the scenes, supporting our scholars and planning fun events. Please be sure to take a look at this month's [Crown Community News and Events.](#)

#### **BoD Open Forum**

The CLCA Board of Directors Open Forum has been scheduled for **Monday, January 26, starting at 6:00, at the Berea Campus.**

# Early Childhood Classrooms

---

## 2-year-olds- MRS.BROM,[rachel.brom@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:rachel.brom@crownoflifeacademy.org)

### This Week's Focus:

**Theme:** Transportation- Cars, Trucks, Bicycles

**Bible Lesson:** Jesus Turns Water into Wine



**Fine Motor Development:** This week, children are building fine motor skills through hands-on activities that strengthen small hand muscles and coordination. Gluing, sorting, coloring, painting with cars, and manipulating play-dough all help develop grasp, control, and hand-eye coordination while children engage in fun, meaningful learning experiences.

**Social/Language:** This week, children are developing social and language skills by sharing about their own cars and bikes, listening to others, and participating in group discussions. Cooperative activities, such as building a city together and talking about stoplight colors and meanings, encourage turn-taking, communication, and vocabulary development related to vehicles, colors, and everyday experiences.

**Math:** This week, children are building math skills by sorting and matching colors, counting objects like Fruit Loops, and identifying patterns as they create crafts. They also practice early problem-solving and spatial awareness while building roads and cities with play-dough and exploring how colors mix together.

**Science:** This week, children are developing science skills by exploring cause and effect as they paint with cars and observe how colors mix to make new ones. They also learn about how stoplights work and experiment with color changes in the Bible craft, helping them build early observation, prediction, and inquiry skills.

### **Teacher/Student, Small Group Time:**

- There was an old lady who swallowed some snow (with props and interactive engagement)
- Bible Craft: Water into wine coloring craft
- Stoplight Gluing/Color Sorting Craft
- Hot Wheel Painting
- Snow Globe Finger Painting
- Play-Doh “Cities”- Imaginative Play
- Sensory Bin: Cars and Roads (Black Beans, Pipe Cleaners, Cars/Trucks, Street Signs, Rakes)

As the weather gets cooler, please remember to send a coat, hat, and gloves with your child each day for outdoor play. To help avoid mix-ups, make sure **all items** are clearly labeled with your child's name. Thank You!

### **Dates to Remember**

- **January 6:** Re-enrollment for the 2026-27 school year begins
- **January 19: No School;** teacher professional development day
- **January 29-30:** Parent/ Teacher conferences

## **3-year-olds- MRS. TRICIA DUNCAN, [tricia.duncan@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:tricia.duncan@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

### **This week's Focus**

**Theme:** Transportation- Cars, Trucks, and Bikes

**Bible Lesson:** Jesus turns water into wine



**Fine Motor Development:** Stickers, gluing, cutting, coloring

**Literacy:** Letter "N"

**Science:** In science, our preschoolers are exploring the exciting topic of transportation! We are learning about different types of vehicles, such as cars, trucks, and bikes, and how they help people travel from one place to another. Through hands-on activities, stories, and play, children are discovering how vehicles move, what they are used for, and how they are the same or different. This unit encourages curiosity, builds vocabulary, and helps children understand the world around them while connecting science learning to their everyday experiences.

**Math.** In math, our preschoolers are focusing on the number one! Children are learning to recognize the number 1 and understand that it represents one object. Through fun activities like number scrambles, they practice identifying the number one by carefully looking at a group of numbers and coloring all the number ones they find. These activities help build number recognition, attention to detail, and early counting skills while making learning engaging and hands-on.

**Books:** Five Little Monkeys Wash a car, Goodnight truck, Why did the monster cross the road, Chimps don't wear glasses, Duck on a bike, Little blue truck, Sheep on a ship, Busy street, row row row your boat, cars cars cars.

**Song of the week:** Drive My Car (Laurie Berkner)

**Get up and move:** Drive Drive (Danny Go), Chipmunk at the gas pump (Laurie Berkner)



Please remember to send your child with hats, gloves, snow pants, and snow boots. If you would like, your child is welcome to keep a spare set of winter gear at school (boots, hats, mittens, snow pants), to help make things easier for families during the winter season. **Kindly label all items to avoid mix-ups.** Thanks for your cooperation!

Every Thursday, we have a visitor for a small devotion - Pastor Wessel, our campus pastor. Every Thursday at 6:30 pm: You are invited to come to Bethany Lutheran Church's worship service. Every Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:30 am, Worship services  
Every Friday, we have a Chapel. Please feel free to join us during this time, @ 10:50 am

**THANK YOU** for making sure you are using Brightwheel to check in/check out each school day! It really helps our office staff (and me!) to be sure our numbers are accurate each day.

### **Dates to Remember:**

- **January 6:** Enrollment for the 2026-27 school year begins
- **January 19: No School;** teacher professional development day
- **January 29 Early release**
- **January 30:** Parent/ Teacher conferences **No School**
- 

---

## **4K- MRS.ERTMAN, [jennifer.ertman@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:jennifer.ertman@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

**Bible Lesson:** Jesus Changes Water Into Wine- This is the first of Jesus' miracles. We'll learn about several of his miracles in the coming weeks.

**Memory Treasure:** Give us today our daily bread.

**Literacy:** Letter P is up this week, and we're having a Party to celebrate. Wednesday will be a Pajama and Popcorn party. Students are welcome to wear pajamas and slippers on Wednesday.

**Math:** We continue learning about 3D shapes. This week, we are focusing on the cylinder and finding 3D shapes in the world around us.

**Social Studies:** Our focus this week will be on how some animals (and people) adapt in the winter. We'll focus on learning about penguins and how they survive in the cold weather.

**Important Dates:**

**January 6:** Enrollment for the 2026-27 school year begins

**January 19:** No School

---

**4K- MRS.KOERBER, [sarah.koerber@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:sarah.koerber@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

**Skylar** is our student of the week!

**Bible Lesson:** Jesus Changes Water Into Wine (John 2:1-11)

**Memory Treasure:** Give us today our daily bread. (The Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer)

**Literacy:** We are learning about the letter Pp, how to write, and the sound it makes.

**Nursery Rhyme:** Pease Porridge Hot

**Show-and-tell:** Friday- bring something that begins with the letter P!

**Math:** We are learning about complex patterns: pattern cores, identifying missing pieces, and different types of patterns!

**Music:** Some of the songs we are singing this week are "Penguin Dance," "Put Your Finger In the Air", and Hot Potato".

**Science:** We are continuing our unit on winter. We will discover what happens to water when it gets cold, and talk about snowflakes.

**Upcoming:**

**January 14:** 4K Pajama party! Wear PJs to school

**January 19:** No school; teacher professional development day

**January 29-30:** Parent/ Teacher conferences

---

## Elementary Classrooms

**5K- MRS. OPPERMANN, [elise.oppermann@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:elise.oppermann@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

**Routines, Procedures, and Lots of Fun!**

Our class has done a solid job at coming back to school after a long break. We all continue to work hard at staying in our own space and worrying about our own business. This is a life skill that takes decades to master, though, right? 😊 Please continue to support your little reader at home. The scholars are doing an amazing job with sounding out words. Let them practice with you!

**Math** continues in our study of teen numbers. **Phonics** adds /y/ and /x/ to our toolbelt, along with a review of all “**❤️**” words. This week, **Reading** has us working on fairy tales and being able to retell a plot. **Writing** works us through the differences between fact and opinion. In **Science**, the properties of weight, size, and shape are discussed. **ChristLight** introduces the unlikely people of Balaam and Rahab, who help God’s people and are a part of God’s great plan for salvation. We see examples of promises being kept and the great reminder to keep your trust in God.

**Add These to Your Calendar:**

**Jan. 16:** Kindergarten sings in chapel, “Thankful”  
**Jan. 17:** Pinecar Workshop- Berea (1 of 4)  
**Jan. 19:** No School  
**Jan 20-22:** I-Ready Testing, math and reading



---

**5K- MRS. STEFANSKI, [kayla.stefanski@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:kayla.stefanski@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

We had a great first week back!

Students' extra clothes went home over break. If you haven't done so yet, please return those bags with proper clothing. Most items were summer clothes, or we outgrew them.

**A sneak peek at what we are learning...**

**Math:** We continue to learn about teen numbers..

**Phonics:** Yy /y/ and Xx /ks/, reviewing “snap words,” blending, segmenting and isolating phonemes, rhyming..

**Reading:** We will practice retelling a story.

**Writing:** We will study opinion pieces and write our own opinion. We will learn about using strong adjectives and verbs.

**Science:** We continue our Pushes & Pulls unit and study how things move.

**Christ Light:** We will learn about God's forgiveness and trusting in God alone.. Bible Stories: The Day of Atonement, The Twelve Spies, Korah and His Men Sin, The Bronze Snake.

**Add These to Your Calendar:**

**Jan 19:** No School

---

**1st- MRS. GARTHWAIT, [bonnie.garthwait@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:bonnie.garthwait@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

A couple for this week:

- We will be doing our **Winter iReady Reading Test this Wednesday (1/14) in the morning**. Please make sure your student gets a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast to set them up for success. Also, please encourage them to try their best - they have put in a lot of work learning new things and should be proud to show their efforts 
- Please make sure your student has a hat, boots, snowpants, and mittens/gloves. We try to get outside for all recesses as long as it is not too cold. Winter gear may stay at school during the week, but will come home on the weekends to get washed. **Please make sure to label everything!**
- Library Time is on Wednesday. I have some students who are yet to return books from the beginning of the school year, which means they aren't able to check out new things. Please assist your student in bringing books back each week for library day, as picking out new books is a great way to instill an interest in reading and learning! If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know!

## **Dates to Remember**

- **January 16- End of the 2nd Quarter**
- **January 17- Pinecar Workshop (Berea 1 of 4)**
- **January 19- No School**
- **January 29- ½ day of school; Parent Teacher Conferences**
- **January 30- No School; Parent Teacher Conferences**

**Math:** Chapter 8: Adding and Subtracting 10's

**Reading:** Snowy Day - whole group; The Lunches - decodable text

**Writing:** Adverbs: identifying and using in sentences

**Phonics:** Spelling pattern and 3 sounds associated with -ed (/t/, /d/, & /id/) ex: asked, filled, acted; spelling pattern -ing ex: being

**Christ Light:** This week, we will learn to show respect to God's chosen leaders. We will also learn to be thankful for God's loving punishment that leads us to repent and trust in his forgiveness.

## **Memory Work:**

**January 6: Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.**

**January 8: John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.**

---

## **1st & 2nd - MRS. SPLINTER [stephanie.splinter@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:stephanie.splinter@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

We will be doing the second I-Ready Assessment in the month of January. On Wednesday, January 14th, we will be assessing our reading skills. On Wednesday, January 21st, we will be assessing our math skills. Please make every effort to have your child get a good night's sleep and eat some breakfast.

## **Dates to Remember:**

- **January 16- End of the 2nd Quarter**
- **January 17- Pinecar Workshop (Berea 1 of 4)**
- **January 19- No School**
- **January 29- ½ day of school; Parent Teacher Conferences**
- **January 30- No School; Parent Teacher Conferences**

## **What are we learning?**

**Christ Light:** This week, we will learn to confess our sins to God and ask for forgiveness. We will also learn to be thankful and happy worshiping God in church.

## **Memory Work:**

**January 6: 3rd Commandment: Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy.**

**January 8: Romans 6:23: The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Math:** 2nd grade is learning about place values. 1st grade will be wrapping up Chapter 8..

**Writing:** We will be working on our Grow and Glow project.

**Social Studies:** We will be traveling to China and India. We will be learning about their culture.

**Reading:** 2nd grade will read a story called Luke Goes to Bat. 1st grade will read a story called The Big Trip.

**Phonics:** 2nd Grade: Spelling patterns -oi and -oy for /oi/ as in boil and toy; and -ou and -ow for /ow/ as in bounce and frown. 1st grade: Spelling pattern and 3 sounds associated with -ed (/t/, /d/, & /id/) ex: asked, filled, acted; spelling pattern -ing ex: being

---

## **2nd- MRS. HOLZHUETER, [tina.holzhueter@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:tina.holzhueter@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

We will be conducting the second I-Ready Assessment in the month of January. On Wednesday, January 14th, we will be assessing our math skills. On Wednesday, January 21st, we will be assessing our Reading skills. Please make every effort to have your child get a good night's sleep and eat some breakfast.

### **Dates to Remember:**

- **January 16- End of the 2nd Quarter**
- **January 17- Pinecar Workshop (Berea 1 of 4)**
- **January 19- No School**
- **January 29- ½ day of school; Parent Teacher Conferences**
- **January 30- No School; Parent Teacher Conferences**
- **February 13- Valentine's Day Party (more details to come)**

**Christ Light:** This week, we will learn to show respect to God's chosen leaders. We will also learn to be thankful for God's loving punishment that leads us to repent and trust in his forgiveness.

### **Memory Work:**

**January 6: Psalm 119:105** Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

**January 8: John 3:16** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**Math:** We will finish up Chapter 7 this week. On Friday, we will begin a study on money.

**Reading:** We will read a story called Mr. Tanen's Tie Trouble. The target skill we will focus on is story structure. The target strategy will be to infer and predict..

**Social Studies:** We will be taking a break from Social Studies right now.

**Science:** We will begin a unit on Property of Materials. We will learn what ingredients make the best glue.

**Writing:** Each student will write 3 strengths they have and 3 skills they would like to improve on.

**Phonics:** Spelling patterns -oi and -oy for /oi/ as in boil and toy; and -ou and -ow for /ow/ as in bounce and frown

---

### **3rd- MRS. THAYER, [lindsey.thayer@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:lindsey.thayer@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

Happy Week 20! Tuesday, January 13th, and January 20th, the 3rd graders will be taking their 2nd round of iReady Testing. For their many God given abilities to shine to the best of their ability, please ensure they get a good night's sleep and eat breakfast in the morning before school begins. THANK YOU 😊

- Jan. 16: End of the 2nd Quarter
- Jan. 17: Pinecar Workshop- Berea (1 of 4)
- Jan. 19: No School
- Jan. 29-30 Parent Teacher Conferences

**Christ Light:** 4B The Golden Calf and 5A The Tabernacle

**Memory Work:** January memory work calendar- Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Math:** Unit 4 review, Unit 4 assessment, iReady testing, intro to Unit 5

**Reading:** Lesson 11: "Technology Wins the Game"- How have inventions helped sports?

**Spelling:** New sorts coming home Monday, Pretest Tuesday, and Final retakes Friday

**Social Studies:** Iditarod Unit

---

### **4th- MRS. GUT [cindy.gut@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:cindy.gut@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

We survived the first week back from Christmas break! I am sure your scholars were tired, but I trust it was a good week back and they are ready to keep going. Just as a reminder, your scholar needs coats, hats, gloves, and all the snow gear (when we have snow) each day. They are required to have their coat on at certain temperatures, and that is a rule across the entire lower grades. Thank you for being sure those coats are coming each day. We will be taking our 2nd round of I-Ready testing this week and next. This Wednesday will be our reading test, and next Wednesday we will take math. These tests are very important for me to see where your scholar is in their Reading and Math. Please be sure they are getting a good night's sleep and eating a good breakfast in the morning. Thank you!

### **Dates to remember:**

- **January 16th-End of the 2nd quarter**
- **January 19th-No School**
- **January 29th-½ day of school**
- **January 30th-No School**

### What we are learning in 4th Grade:

**Christ Light:** In our lessons this week, we will be looking at the obedience God asks of us for both those in authority here on Earth and to him as our gracious, heavenly Father.

Memory work-Tuesday, January 13th-2 Timothy 2:16 and Conclusion to the 10 Commandments. Thursday, January 15th-Ephesians 2:8-9 and 1st Commandment with the Explanation.

**Reading:** In reading this week, we will be reading a story about Hurricanes. We will work on how the graphics in stories and articles help us to better understand what we are reading. We will also look at Hurricane Katrina and the impact that it had on our country.

**Grammar:** In grammar this week, we will work on participles.

**Writing:** Our opinion piece this week will focus on uniforms! I am looking forward to seeing what the students' opinions are regarding this issue since they are required to wear uniforms. They have been doing a great job with each of these opinion pieces.

**Math:** In math, we will continue to work on different strategies for dividing multi-digit numbers by one-digit numbers. We will be finishing up this chapter and looking forward to a test next week.

**Social Studies:** In Social Studies, we will be starting the Midwest Region. This region includes our own state, so there should be a lot of information they are familiar with. They will again have a test on the capitals and abbreviations next week. They will come home with their study guide tomorrow. Help them to begin studying now.

**Science:** We will look at additional electrical systems and explore how they work.

## Middle School Classrooms

**5th- MRS. BROWN (5-8 ELA),**  
[whitney.brown@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:whitney.brown@crownoflifeacademy.org)

### **TO THE POINT DATES**

- Jan 14-16: I-Ready Reading
- Jan 16: End of Quarter 2
- Jan 19: No School
- Jan 20: I-Ready Math
- Jan 21: Author Visit!
- Jan 26: DARE Lesson
- Jan 29-30: Parent Teacher Conferences (Half day, Thurs, no school Fri)
- Feb 4: Field Trip to Luther Prep
- Feb 19-20: No School - Teacher Meetings
- Feb 24: Field Trip to Milton House Museum
- **Every day: God is Good!**



### **LEARN AND GROW**

**CHRIST LIGHT:** The class will read the stories of the giving of the law and the Day of Atonement this week. Our memory work is John 3:16—the classic gospel in a nutshell. We enjoyed creating more artistic posters for our memory work practice. The Memory Work link is found [HERE](#).

**ELA 5+6:** Research for our National Parks project is complete! Next step, we'll work on writing a hook, thesis statement, and crafting our top ideas into neat paragraphs. In roots, we will take our spelling test on the roots FIG/MORPH/FORM on Tuesday. The new root PORT will be assigned next.

**ELA 7+8:** We've completed our deep dive into the UNHCR website to explore a real story of a real refugee. Students practiced the paragraph-by-paragraph summarizing strategy to take notes. Next, they will find a secondary source to use for additional information. Those refugee books should be close to being finished yet—I'll admit, I'm a bit nervous with how little the bookmarks have moved for some students. The entire novel needs to be read by January 20. In roots, we'll explore Greek and Latin roots that mean TWO.

**LITERATURE:** The class is a few chapters into our story, *A Night Divided*. We're getting to know the characters—Gerta, Fritz, Anna, and more. This week, we worked on comparing character traits using evidence from the story. They are getting a snapshot of the hostile environment that existed between West and East Berlin in the 1960s.

**CATEGORIES:** List 5 things that are cold. (*without putting them in the fridge to make them cold*)

### **STAY SHARP REMINDERS**

Send gym clothes in on **Mondays** and **Tuesdays**.

**I-Ready Testing - Round 2** Please help your child get a healthy breakfast and a great night's sleep to showcase their great learning. I'm especially excited to see their growth in reading with all the extra challenges I've given them for over break. Consistent, quiet reading time makes such a difference! Thanks for your encouragement at home. **Reading I-Ready is on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (if needed) this week. Math I-Ready is next Tuesday.**



**Author Visit:** I am beyond excited to have this published, Wisconsin author visit our school! Amanda Zieba has become a friend of mine over the past few years. Her ELA content and literature pushes to get kids reading have been an inspiration in my own classroom. She's coming to present to each of my ELA classes on Wednesday, January 21. If you'd like to purchase any books and get them signed by her, please check out the links here: [Google Form to Purchase book](#) [Book information](#)

**Field Trips** We have two exciting field trips coming up in February! Drivers will be needed. [Here](#) is the form that is coming home with your scholars today!

**Conferences** The second round of parent-teacher-student conferences is just around the corner. They will take place on Thursday, January 30, after our early release, and Friday, January 31. Please sign up just like last round. The only difference is that **YOUR SCHOLAR MUST ATTEND**. An essential piece of this conference is their student presentations about their own growth. If you are struggling to find a time that fits right for your family, please reach out to me to see if we could possibly meet on a weekday before or later on Thursday evening. Thank you!

**Grateful to work with all of your families this year!** ❤

---

## 6th- MR. HOLCOMB (5-8 Social Studies), [mark.holcomb@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:mark.holcomb@crownoflifeacademy.org)

### Thoughts from God's Word

**Matthew 3:13-17 (13) Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. (14) But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” (15) Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented. (16) As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment, heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. (17) And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”**

This past Sunday was the day in the church year on which we celebrate Jesus' baptism. It may seem unusual that Jesus was baptized. Jesus was the holy Son of God. He had no sins that needed to be forgiven. So why was he baptized? Jesus' baptism set him aside for his work as our Savior from sin. John the Baptist

had pointed to Jesus and said, "Look, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29). God the Father now proclaims, "Thus is my Son whom I love; with him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17) Isaiah said of Jesus, "The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor." There was no more waiting for the Savior. Jesus was that Savior. Jesus' baptism set him aside as our substitute. Jesus would keep God's law perfectly in our place. Jesus would die and suffer the torments of hell we deserved for our sins in our place. Jesus' resurrection proved that his redemptive work counts for us. May we always remember Jesus' baptism and look to him as our Savior and substitute who won salvation for us.

### Important Dates

- Monday-Friday this week - European Country Presentations
- Friday, January 16 - end of second quarter
- Friday, January 16 - basketball at Holy Cross in Madison
- Saturday, January 17 - 5th/6th boys basketball tournament at Oconomowoc
- Monday, January 19 - no school
- Tuesday, January 20 - Native American project is due
- Saturday, January 24 - 5th/6th girls basketball tournament at TSL in Watertown

### Subject Work This Week

- Bible History: We see every one of God's promises fulfilled as he leads his people into the land of Canaan.
- Doctrine: The First Article introduces us to God, our Father in heaven. God richly and daily provides us with all that we need for our bodies and life. In response, we thank, praise, serve, and obey him in all that we do.
- Memory Work: Monday - Passages 13-14; Wednesday - Passages 15-16; Next Monday - Passages 17-18
- 5-6 Geography: Country presentations are this week. Be sure to be ready on your scheduled day.
- 5-6 History: We are studying life in Early America. Many cultural groups settled in Early America. We will be comparing and contrasting these groups. **The students will be assigned a history project** for January 20 that requires them to research the culture of a tribe or tribal group in Early America. It would be wise to start early.
- 7-8 History: The Revolutionary War was won. The Constitution was written. But now America had to grow and thrive on its own. America faced many obstacles from foreign powers and within its borders. America's leaders helped America not only to survive, but to thrive at this time. **This Week - the War of 1812.** A unit history project has been assigned for January 20. Students are encouraged to start early on their project.
- Literature: We will be reading the novel *Indian Captive* during the next quarter. The novel takes place during the French and Indian War and looks at the war from the perspective of the Native Americans who were caught in the middle. During the unit, the students will be asked to evaluate the growth of characters. Students will have daily assignments, but they should keep at their character growth charts. At the end of the unit, the students will be writing a paper about what they learned from the novel. Charts will be given to fill in during the novel to assist with the paper. It is important that students keep up with their charts.

---

### **7th- MRS. TOMLIN (5-8 Math), [beth.tomlin@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:beth.tomlin@crownoflifeacademy.org)**



**Bible History/Hymnology:** 7th grade will be having Doctrine every day this week. Pastor Krause will then be out for the next two weeks, where we will dive back into the book of Acts.

**7th Grade Literature:** The class has started a new novel, *Among the Hidden*. We dove into this dystopian world and continue to discuss themes of courage, integrity, and making wise choices even in difficult situations.

**5th Math:** We will take our assessment on dividing whole numbers and then start a new chapter where we will work on dividing numbers with decimals.

**6th Math:** We will continue to write and solve algebraic expressions.

**7th Math:** We will continue to explore ratios and rates.

**8th Math:** We will analyse and compute angles of triangles.

**Dates to Remember:**

- **Jan. 16: End of the 2nd Quarter**
- **Jan 28: 7th Grade Warrior for a Day**
- **Jan. 29: Noon Release**
- **Jan. 29-30: P/T Conferences (4k-8th)**

---

## **8th- MR. METZGER (5-8 Science), [glenn.metzger@crownoflifeacademy.org](mailto:glenn.metzger@crownoflifeacademy.org)**

### **Science Notes for Middle School**

-Students who were in school on Friday got a list of any missing assignments for Science class. There won't be any new science grades for the second quarter this week, so the only way to improve a grade before report cards come out is to revise and return previously graded assessments. All four classes are in the early stages of their new units.

### **8th Grade Notes**

-We are wrapping up the first 9 chapters of Joshua this week, and getting into Rahab next. Our memory work passage for the week is Romans 1:16-17.

The class has been struggling with mastering their memory work so far this school year. It seems like many students wait until the last minute to study, and then "cram" the passage and forget it. Before considering any increase in consequences for not knowing the memory work, I'd like to encourage parents to spend a few minutes asking about the passages we study each week. Our devotions focus on understanding who is speaking, to whom they are speaking, what the context of the passage is, and how we can use that passage to share God's word with others. If students are in school and paying attention during devotion, they should know that information by Wednesday. I would love it if you would support the spiritual growth we strive for with memory work by practicing or talking about the highlighted passages each week.

-A skill that has been added to our work in literature class is the summarization of informational articles. We have an assessment scheduled for Wednesday that will address those summarization skills, among other skills. The articles we are studying all center around how refugees are impacted by having to leave home and trying to find a new home.

-We had a nice trip over to the high school last week to see what offerings are available to students if they choose to attend FAHS. Today, Mrs. Uptahll came over to meet with those 8th graders to get more in-depth with courses and paths to take over their career at FAHS. The official dates to start signing up for those classes will be in February. Students who attended the meeting today did so during their i-Ready practice time and study hall period.

-We are starting the second round of our i-Ready diagnostics this week. Reading will be proctored by me on Tuesday afternoon in place of literature class. Mrs. Tomlin will be proctoring the math diagnostic during her normal class time.

## Specials - Music, Art, P.E., Enrichment Electives

<p><b>Music</b> – <b>MRS. BECKER (5K-8 Music)</b> <a href="mailto:marie.becker@crownoflifeacademy.org">marie.becker@crownoflifeacademy.org</a></p> <p>Happy New Year!</p> <p>We will begin getting ready for our Winter Concerts in February! On <b>February 17th</b>, our 5th-8th graders will have an opportunity to perform! On <b>February 24th</b>, our 1st-4th graders will also have an opportunity to perform!</p> <p>Fine Arts Fair at Lakeside Lutheran High School is just around the corner on <b>April 11th and 12th</b>. Students in band and choir get to perform together!</p>	<p><b>Enrichments 5th-8th</b> <a href="mailto:sarah.moore@crownoflifeacademy.org">sarah.moore@crownoflifeacademy.org</a></p> <p>It was a great week of enrichment electives. Just a few highlights -- appetizers were enjoyed in foods, popsicle bridges were tested for strength, and the yearbook pages are coming together one by one!</p>
<p><b>ART</b> – <b>MR. HELGESTAD (5K-8)</b> <a href="mailto:barry.helgestad@crownoflifeacademy.org">barry.helgestad@crownoflifeacademy.org</a></p> <p>We are excited to enter 2026 with gratitude, joy, and creativity in the art room! Thank you for encouraging your scholars to give their best efforts, and remember... You never rush art!</p> <p><a href="#">SEE WHAT CLCA STUDENTS ARE STUDYING AND CREATING</a></p>	<p><b>Phy. Ed</b> – <b>MRS. TOWNE (5K-8)</b> <a href="mailto:mallory.towne@crownoflifeacademy.org">mallory.towne@crownoflifeacademy.org</a></p> <p>Our next unit is.... DANCE!</p> <p>K-4th will focus this week on dancing in an open space while recognizing rhythm and a beat.</p> <p>5th-8th are also focusing on rhythm while learning different cultural line dances from around the world!</p>

## Athletics- MR. HOLCOMB: Athletic Director

### Basketball/Cheer This Week

- **Practices:** Monday: 4:45-6:15 (A-Girls); Tuesday - 3:30-4:15 (Cheer); 4:15-5:30 (B-Boys); 5:30-7:00 (A-Boys); Wednesday 3:30-4:45 (B-Girls); 4:45-6:15 (A-Girls); Thursday - 3:30-4:15 (Cheer); 4:15-5:30 (B-Boys); 5:30-7:00 (A-Boys)
- **Basketball Game This Week:** Friday, CLCA's teams will play at Holy Cross in Madison. The address is 734 Holy Cross Way, Madison, Wisconsin 53704. B-Girls play at 5:00; B-Boys play at 6:00; A-Girls play at 7:00; A-Boys at 8:00. Come cheer on our teams. For **away games**, we dress to impress (boys - dress pants, dress shirt or sweater, good shoes, possibly a tie; girls - dress, good-looking outfit, think what most girls did for volleyball). It is part of representing our Savior, our school, and ourselves.
- The B-boys play in a tournament at St. Matthew's, Oconomowoc, on Saturday, January 17. The address is: 1650 Brown St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066. Game times will be given by our coaches.
- **A-Girls Falcon Tournament:** Our A-team girls played well at Lakeside Lutheran High School in the Falcon Tournament on Saturday. They came away with a third-place finish. Good job, girls.
- **Friday Results:** All of our teams represented our Savior, school, and themselves well against St. Matthew's, Oconomowoc. Our B-boys and A-girls came away with victories.

- **Basketball Uniform Washing Care:** Basketball uniforms will be handed out this week. Uniforms may be washed in the washing machine. Shorts may go in the dryer, but **jerseys must be hung dry**, or the letters and numbers peel off.
- **Basketball Uniforms and Game Nights:** Basketball uniforms **are never worn to or from games**. For **away games**, we dress to impress (boys - dress pants, dress shirt or sweater, good shoes, possibly a tie; girls - dress, good-looking outfit, think what most girls did for volleyball). It is part of representing our Savior, our school, and ourselves. For **home games**, we dress for the home theme of the night or wear our warm-up shirts and khakis or decent-looking pants. Players change at the game site before their game. As soon as the game is done, we change back into our regular clothing for the evening. We look forward to giving a positive CLCA impression to our fans and visitors. Coaches will help to remind players of game dress code expectations.
- **Concession Help:** All basketball and cheer parents are asked to assist with home game concessions.
- **Coach Email:** You should have received an email from your athlete's coach this weekend regarding basketball, including practices and game dates and times.

## **Spiritual Growth – [PASTOR WESSEL: Campus Pastor](#)**

- **Foundations:** Foundations is a Bible Basics class for those interested in learning the core teachings of Scripture. We'll answer questions like "What does the Bible say?", "What is God's plan for my life?" and "Why is Jesus so important?" This class is also the path for membership at one of our association churches – but there's no obligation! Come and learn with us in a relaxed setting as we take an honest look at God's Word. We just started a new session, but there's still time to get involved! Join us for Foundations at our Bethany Campus, Sundays at 11:35 am.
- **Understanding Baptism:** Join us on February 7th for a workshop centered on God's gift of baptism! We will discover what the Bible teaches about baptism and celebrate the many blessings and promises God gives us through simple water and Word. We hope you can join us on Saturday, February 7th, at 9:30 am at the Bethany campus. Coffee and donuts will be provided!

**Thankful for another week of God's Grace and the blessings that lie ahead!**



such good & perfect gifts