

VISION

TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

SPRING 24



GO and BE

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Time to Go!



Jon Vugteveen, Head of School

If you are a teacher or student at this time of the year and you hear this phrase, there is usually only one thing on your mind... SUMMER! The end of the year is here, and it is time to go! To be honest, the students and teachers work so hard that they deserve to have that genuine feeling of "Let's Go!"

While it is hard to say goodbye for the summer to everyone and "let them go", it is exciting to reflect on everything that these students and teachers have accomplished all year long. They have poured into their school work, their friendships, their extracurriculars and more. But most important of all, these students have been challenged in their hearts to love the Lord more and to go out and impact others for Christ. The biblical worldview set by the examples of the teachers and staff here will and has made a lasting impact on our students and the community.

As you read and peruse through this edition of Vision, I hope you can see our students, staff and families experiencing the TCS Mission statement which states:

The goal of Trinity is to provide a personalized, goal-directed approach to education and to equip children with the desire, discipline and skills to pursue excellence in all that they do "heartily as unto the Lord." We seek to equip students to be disciples of Christ, applying their knowledge in creative and responsive ways to life and the world around them.

As our students experience being let go for the summer, I hope that they also see the opportunity to continue growing for the Lord and serving others as lights to the world. They can GO and BE the hands and feet of Jesus as they enjoy a summer filled with new experiences, friendships, camps and more.

Go Eagles! GO and BE!

In His Grip,

Jon Vugteveen
Head of School



Student Activities

Our students have many opportunities to let their talents shine for Jesus throughout the school year. Here are just a few highlights from student activities!

MATH COMPETITION

In February, seventh and eighth grade math competition students took second place overall at the Joliet West Mid High Math Competition! Our students worked very hard preparing for this competition for weeks and we are not only proud of their work ethic and success, but also proud of their positive attitudes, respectful spirits, and joyful hearts.

The eighth graders took first place in the Trigonometry category and third place in the group competition. Our seventh graders took second place in the Quadratics category, second place in Quadrants category, and second place in the group competition. Way to shine, Trinity students!

MATH OLYMPICS

In March, we had the privilege of virtually participating in an ACSI Math Olympics Competition. Six students from each third through eighth grade class were chosen to compete in either a computation or reasoning category. To place in the ACSI Virtual Math Olympics, students had to place top five out of anywhere from 20-30 students who are from schools located in Illinois, Ohio, Texas, and Oklahoma.

Seven of our students placed in the top five (with ties for third, fourth, and fifth place) in the reasoning competition, and two students place in the top five in the computation competition. We are so proud of these students!

SPEECH MEET

A few weeks after the Math Olympics, we had some students participate in the ACSI Creative Writing Festival. The Student Leadership event is a program aimed at helping students develop their writing skills, as well as providing the students with an opportunity to have their best-written works evaluated. Finally, the students were tasked with holding strong to their faith and representing their Christian worldview in their work.

Students in fourth through twelfth grade were able to enter the writing festival and submit work in the categories of short story, essay, rhymed or free-verse poetry, song lyrics, and playwriting. Each entry was judged against strict guidelines and assigned an award based on their scores. This is the first year TCS has participated in the ACSI Creative Writing Festival, and with eight participants selected for further evaluation, we had a great turn out.

We are very proud of all of our participants this year!

SPELLING BEE

In April, students in fifth through eighth grade competed in our in-house spelling bee. All of our students did an amazing job with some tough words! Congratulations to our top spellers:

First Place: Darrius W., Second Place: Skylar D., Third Place: Niko D., Fourth Place: Ashley P.



Robotics

Competition Season

This was a great third year to our robotics program! Our fourth through eighth grade teams performed well at their competition, earning higher scores than last year and improving in several areas. We also started a third grade team this year to begin preparing them for competition when they enter fourth grade next year. Third grade students had a mock competition at the end of the year, and they scored very well! We look forward to seeing them compete next year. We are also excited to announce that robotics will extend to second grade next school year!



Guest Speakers

This year robotics had a variety of guest speakers visit TCS to talk to our robotics students about a wide range of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics) careers. Debra Daun, the MakerLab Specialist at Joliet Junior College, spoke about 3D printing and additive manufacturing. Matt Koehler, who works in visual effects, spoke about how art and technology work together to create the visual effects in movies. David Payton, from Payton Production Group, shared about his work in audio engineering and did some demonstrations on how sound waves work. Finally, John McDavitt of McDavitt Design Studio spoke about his process as an artist and working with clients. We are thankful for all of these guest speakers for taking the time to share their knowledge with our students!

TCS SPORTS

Our winter sports saw some big wins this season! All teams participated in the ICC Championship and took first place. Additionally, the elementary girls' basketball team won the Cross Lutheran Invitational, and the middle school boys' basketball team won the Trinity Invitational. Great job all!

Congratulations to the following students for receiving ICC Conference Awards:

Darrius W. and Caden B. received the All-Conference Award, Brianna M. received the All-Sportsmanship Award, and Nathaniel S. received the All-Academic Award for soccer.

Brooklyn H. and Alaina D. received the All-Conference Award, Anna A. received the All-Sportsmanship Award, and Leah S. received the All-Academic Award for volleyball.

Christian K. and Nathan D. received the All-Conference Award, Ryne D. received the All-Sportsmanship Award, and Darrius W. received the All-Academic Award for boys' basketball.

Taylor K. and Anna A. received the All-Conference Award, Ava C. received the All-Sportsmanship Award, and Allison P. received the All-Academic Award for girls' basketball.

Additionally, 8th grade students Darrius W. and Brooklyn H. received the Athlete of the Year Award for Trinity Christian School at our Sports Awards Ceremony. Mrs. Erin Mongelli received the Brent Haas Athletic Service Award.

Thank you to elementary boys' basketball coaches Mr. Vugteveen, Mr. Proskey and Mr. Fabbre; junior high boys' basketball coaches Mr. Bounds and Mr. Chagdes; Cheerleading coaches Miss Bekermeier and Miss Bresnahan; elementary girls' basketball coaches Mrs. Deeter and Mr. Deeter; and junior high girls' basketball coaches Mr. Byrer and Mr. Kravarik. Thank you for all the time and energy you invest in our athletes, for your leadership and your example!

We are proud of all of our spring athletes, not just for their championships wins, but their champion hearts, great sportsmanship, and Christian character they showed along the way.



Left: Brooklyn H. and Darrius W., TCS Athletes of the Year.

Right: Mrs. Erin Mongelli, recipient of the Brent Haas Athletic Service Award, and Head of School, Mr. Jon Vugteveen.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Kaye Galang, '18, is currently in her second year in college at Chapman University in Orange, CA, taking up B.S. in Computer Science with a minor in Game Development and Programming, Class of 2026.

She looks forward to a career in game development and design, as well as in computer programming.

Kaye earned the Provost Scholarship at Chapman University. Since her freshman year, Kaye has been on the Provost List of Chapman University, which recognizes students with a GPA of 3.8 or higher.

Currently, Kaye is actively involved on campus, working as a tutor/teaching assistant for a class in game development, serving as a board member of the school's Girls Who Code Club, and being a member of the Computer Science Club and the Asian-Pacific Student Association.

Kaye went to High School at Timothy Christian School in Elmhurst, IL, graduating in 2022. In high school, she was a consistent A Honors student and earned Illinois State Scholar honors.



Alex Bounds, '22, is finishing up his sophomore year at Wheaton Academy and is preparing for his junior year. Academically, he is doing very well, making honor roll both freshman and sophomore years.

He has been part of the WA Cross Country team for the past two years. He had the privilege of traveling to California with his team this past fall to attend the Woodbridge Invitational, which consists of high schools nationwide participating in one of the largest cross country meets. He enjoyed being able to represent his school through competition, as well as bonding with his team while seeing and enjoying the sites of California!

Alex has also participated in the Business Club offered at WA these past two years. He, along with others on his team, competed against other high schools where they were recognized by Calamos Investments for winning the Market Watch Stock Picking Competition.

Looking towards the future, he will be preparing for an internship that is required for graduation. He is hoping to spend two weeks next winter to see the daily operations of running a small airport, as well as flying.



William Hayward, '20, is graduating this year as an Illinois State Scholar from Timothy Christian High School in Elmhurst, IL. This fall, Will plans to pursue a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Class of 2028.

Will has been involved in the National Honors Society and VEX Robotics and was very grateful to journey with his team, 4454B "Cyclops," to the Illinois State tournament at Olivet Nazarene University and the U.S. Open in Council Bluffs, IA. The CREATE U.S. Open competition hosts robotics teams from across the nation and several other locations around the globe for a collaborative experience, competing and learning over several days. Qualifying in the top sixteen in his division, Will is very grateful to his team and Timothy Christian for fostering a positively challenging environment, both academically and spiritually throughout his first robotics season.

Will is going to continue his interests in college, as he pursues his degree in engineering and looks for new ways to apply what he has learned from robotics and incredible, God-driven role models.

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SHARE YOUR STORY

Are you an alumni who has an update to share, a parent with a TCS testimony, or just want to share a review of our school? We'd love to hear from you!

You can e-mail Mr. Jack Hayward, our Marketing Director, at jhayward@trinitychristian.info.

Hope to hear from you soon!

TCS Presents: Annie Jr.

This year, Trinity students performed Annie Jr. for the spring musical. We did four shows this year, allowing our double-cast roles to get two shows each as their main roles.

“You may not be an actual orphan going through intense life trials then handpicked by a billionaire to be his kid,” wrote director Mrs. Lauren Holton in the program, but “Ephesians 1:4-5 says, ‘For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.’”

Regardless of our circumstances, we can experience the joy of being adopted into God’s family, handpicked by our creator. The students and crew did an amazing job using their talents to shine for Christ to share this joy with our audiences. Thank you to director Lauren Holton, assistant director Brad O’Brien, choreographer Kayla Bekermeier, creative producer Ronnie Tanka, our tech team, and all of our volunteers for making this show possible!



Looking Back With



Anna Abrokwa

I have been attending TCS for eight years. I have learned from my time here at TCS that you should never take anything for granted. The friendships you make here are like no other and it is not easy to find many Christian friends to surround yourself with out in the real world. After I finish 8th grade, I will be attending Plainfield South High School. From there, I'm not sure what will happen. I have always wanted to be a lawyer, but I will follow God's plan forever.



Addison Byrer

I've gone to Trinity Christian School for nine years. I came here in kindergarten, and I've been here all the way until now, in eighth grade. Trinity has made a huge impact on my life because they've challenged me mentally, physically, and spiritually. They've taught me to try my best in everything I do and always put the Lord first. Next year I'm attending Minooka Community High School and I'm grateful that Trinity has taught me to be strong in my faith. I know high school won't be easy, but Trinity has prepared me well academically and spiritually for all the challenges I will face. My goal for the future is to become a pathologist or an infectious disease doctor and help utilize the gifts and talents God has given me through medicine.



Nathan Danielson

I attended Trinity Christian School in preschool, then I went to public school, then came back in the beginning of fifth grade year. I have been overly grateful for the teachers I have had. They put in a lot of time for us and make sacrifices. I will greatly miss this school after this year. Next year I will be attending Minooka Community High School where I hope to continue to follow Christ and teach others at a public school.



Spencer DeFalco

I have been at TCS for three years now, grades sixth through eighth. I've learned a lot in the past three years. Next year I might be attending Yorkville Christian High School or Plainfield Central High School. My goal is to attend a good college.



Shelby Frakes

TCS has been my second home for eleven years, from Pre-K3 to eighth grade. I have formed many amazing friendships and have learned so much from many wonderful teachers during my time here. Although, I think out of everything I have learned at TCS, the most important thing is how to be the hands and feet of Jesus and how to be confident in my faith. Next year I will be attending Minooka Community High School. While I am there, I hope to help lead others towards God and come closer to my goal of being a pediatric nurse.



Brooklyn Graham

I have been at Trinity Christian School for two years. Trinity has helped me grow in my faith and how to become the hands and feet of Jesus through, school, friends, and sports. Next year I will be attending Harrison High School when I move to Georgia, where I hope to grow even more in my faith and learn to become a Pediatric Nurse in the future.



Brooklyn Hunter

I have been at TCS for nine years. I have made a lot of memories and have learned so much. As I move on to high school I hope to lead in and out of the classroom and keep a strong relationship with God. Trinity has prepared me so much and I plan to continue everything I have learned. I will miss TCS but can't wait to continue God's path for me. I will be attending Minooka Community High School.



Christian Kravarik

I have attended TCS for three years. I have learned many new things in my time here at TCS. TCS has prepared me very well for high school, by teaching and giving me an advanced education. The teachers offered extra ways to help me succeed. I will be attending Plainfield Central High School and will one day be a professional basketball player.



Caden Bounds

I have been at Trinity from Pre-K through eighth grade. I have made a lot of great memories and have learned a lot in my time here. TCS has prepared me to be the hands and feet of Christ by showing me how to forgive and forget and to be kind to everyone no matter who they are. I will be attending Wheaton Academy next and will apply what I have been taught about being Christ's disciple during my time there as well. My goals for the next years of my life are to play football at a division 1 college and start a few of my own businesses and do well in life.



Enza Crescenzo

I have attended Trinity Christian School for eight years. Since first grade I have learned to shine the light of Jesus through everything I do. Trinity has prepared me to go out into non-Christian environments and spread Jesus' love even if I am not showed it. Next year, I will be attending Joliet Catholic Academy where I plan to continue showing the kindness that TCS has taught me.



Ryne Deets

I have attended TCS since preschool. The teachers have had a huge impact on me, helping me continue to learn more about Jesus. The memories I have created here will surely impact me throughout my life. I will be attending Denver High School in Iowa next year. The godly values I have learned to live by here will hopefully give me confidence to exemplify Christ-like behavior in high school.



Alaina Dolezal

Trinity has been a huge part of my life for eleven years. Since I started coming here in preschool, I have grown so much in my academics, relationships, athletics, and faith. TCS has helped me form and strengthen my faith in Christ and I am so grateful for the opportunity it provided for me to become rooted in God before I go to high school. I will be attending Minooka Community High School next year, and it is my hope that my experience at Trinity will help me be a light there and wherever I go afterwards.



Olivia Giannasi

I have been attending TCS since sixth grade and have loved it. It was probably one of the most life-changing decisions I have ever made, and I have never regretted it. I have learned so much about the Lord that I would have never learned in any other school. I will be attending Yorkville Christian High School next year where I intend to study to become an Orthodontist.



Amelie Hart

I have only been at TCS for one year, but it has taught me a lot. My math skills and faith in Jesus have strengthened while being here. The teachers and students have brightened my life and showed me the love of Jesus and I intend to do the same in my day-to-day life. I will be heading to Yorkville Christian, and I hope they can improve me just like TCS did so that I can follow my dream of becoming an actress.



Sarah Johnson

I have been attending TCS since the first grade. I will be attending Plainfield Central High School. I hope to strengthen my faith in the Lord. One of my goals is to graduate high school and succeed in life. TCS has really helped impact my life by teaching me about the Lord, and for that, I am so grateful.



Brianna McHugh

I have been attending TCS for nine years, kindergarten through eighth. I have not only learned the basics of sharing the gospel, but so much more. I have learned about Jesus' life when He came down to earth, the creation of the world, and how to strengthen my faith and my foundation in Jesus Christ, my rock. As I go into Plainfield South High School, my goal is that I can continue to learn more of God's Word and have a better understanding of him.

the Class of 2024



Samuel Napoleon

I have been attending TCS for seven years from grades two through eight, and I have learned a lot of valuable things during my time. TCS has given me all the examples and reasons to go and be a Christian out in the real world. Next year I will be attending Plainfield Central High School where I hope to strengthen my faith in the Lord and hope to one day become a professional race car driver.



Avery Oppermann

I have been attending Trinity Christian School for nine years. During my time at TCS I have learned many skills both physically and mentally. I have learned to go through hard times while keeping a firm faith. I will use these skills to go out in the world to show the light of God. Next year I will be attending Minooka Community High School. And I hope that in the future I will be able to be the hands and feet of Jesus while working in the medical field to help care for those around me.



Amber Richmond

I have attended Trinity Christian School for nine years, since kindergarten. I am going to Yorkville Christian High School. I have learned so much from all the teachers and staff at Trinity. They have taught us how to love, live, and lead like Jesus did. I have been shown how to have courage and bravery to tell others about Jesus. I will miss everyone here and everything I have learned.



Quinn Schiffbauer

This is my first year at TCS. This year I have learned how to become a better Christian and a better man from my teachers. Till this year my teachers have never been as involved as they are at TCS. This has helped me pay attention more and become a better Christian. Since I've been here, I've quickly made many strong friendships and they've made my experience at TCS more enjoyable as I have become closer to Jesus because of them. Next year I will be attending Minooka Community High School where I hope to spread the Word of God like my friends and teachers have shared to me at TCS. I hope to strengthen my faith with God and prepare to become a firefighter one day and save many lives.



Leah Spelde

I have been attending TCS since Pre-K-3. I have learned so much and grown a lot in my faith at TCS. The teachers here have really taught me how to be more like Jesus. I am so glad that I can go to Minooka Community High School and have TCS as my foundation to live life for Jesus.



Danica Styrzula

I have attended Trinity Christian School for eight years now. Throughout all my years at TCS, I have seen the endless love for the Lord that this school reflects. I hope to reflect that same love for the Lord at Joliet Catholic Academy, which I will be attending next year where I will aim to continue in my faith and becoming closer to the Lord.



Emelia Volpe

I have been attending TCS since second grade, I am so happy to call Trinity my home. The friendships, teachers, students, and environment have impacted me in so many ways. Trinity has showed me so much love and has taught me how to live my life for Jesus. I will be attending Lincoln Way West next year. One goal that I have for high school is to focus on God's word no matter what.



Tessa Witt

I have been attending Trinity Christian School since sixth grade. Next year I will be going to Yorkville Christian High School. TCS has really prepared me to go out and be the light of Jesus through its friends, sports, and the teachers. I hope to grow more in my faith next year and go on to be a lawyer in the future.



Faye Novinski

I attended TCS in preschool and came back for seventh and eighth grade. My time here has taught me many valuable life lessons and I have made many happy memories. I hope to remember these memories and life lessons and bring them into use into my high school years at Minooka Community High School. I hope to keep my faith and love for Jesus strong all through high school.



Allison Pilon

I have been attending Trinity for eleven years. As I step into my next stage of life at Minooka Community High School, I have no doubt that Trinity has prepared me to be a light in a dark world. All of my teachers have shown me how to be the hands and feet of Jesus and how to proclaim my faith in a confident way.



Christian Ripp

I have been at TCS for nine years, from kindergarten to eighth grade. I have learned a lot during my time here. I believe TCS has prepared me to be the light of Jesus through my actions and the words I say to others. The friendships I've made and the chapels I've listened to really made me think about how I treat others. Next year I will be attending Plainfield North High School where I hope to strengthen my faith in the Lord and prepare to become a doctor.



Shae Stuchly

I have been attending Trinity Christian School since three-year-old preschool. I have had a good education. I will be attending Minooka High School where I'm hoping to find good friendships and grow stronger in my faith. One of my goals that I hope to achieve is becoming some kind of child therapist to help autistic children, or to become a hospital therapist. I have a great passion for children and want to fulfill God's plan for me in any way that I can.



Heath Verhulst

This is my first year at TCS, and my time in eighth grade. I have learned a lot about the Bible and have grown in my faith. TCS has prepared me to walk into high school and the rest of my life as the hands and feet of Jesus. After I graduate from TCS, I will be attending Lincoln Way West for high school, and the impact TCS has had on me has prepared me to move forward in life with a strong faith.



Darius Weithers

I have been at TCS from Pre-K through eighth grade. My time here really showed me how to follow Jesus. I have learned how much commitment it takes to follow him. My teachers have shown me that no matter where I go after TCS, I can always rely on Jesus throughout my high school years. I may be attending Plainfield Central High School or Yorkville Christian High School. No matter where I end up, I won't forget all that I've learned here.

Go and Be!

Benefit Event Recap



Toya Thomas, Special Events and Volunteer Coordinator

“Give and it shall be given to you.”
-Luke 6:38

Friday, March 15, the families and friends of Trinity Christian School came together for a beautiful evening of fellowship, fun, and fundraising for our school. This annual Benefit Event was held at the lovely Whitetail Ridge Golf Club in Yorkville, Illinois. The evening consisted of a delicious meal, reconnecting and mingling with fellow parents and alumni. The event highlighted the many ways that God uses us to bless others with our time, talent, and treasure.

The committee put the “fun” in fundraising with a variety of auctions, including a silent auction, a chance auction, and the extremely exciting live auction. The auctions alone raised over \$17,000!

During the program we were blessed to hear personal testimonials shared by a current TCS parent, alumni parent, and grandparent.

Karen Kapsch, parent and co-chair of the Walk-a-Thon committee, shared the importance of making and devoting your time to the school by volunteering and building relationships with other TCS families. Both she and her husband Tom work full-time jobs but choose to be intentional and present by serving here at the school whenever they can.

The proud grandpa, Ralph Viramontes, has no regrets about investing his treasures in TCS, as he has witnessed firsthand the benefits of attending Trinity through his grandchildren. They are excelling and doing exceptionally well in college and their careers. Mr. Viramontes credits their success to the education and Christian foundation that they received at TCS. He desires to continue this legacy and help pay it forward to the future generation.

Matthew Rull, alumni parent and current Recess Coordinator at TCS, is still actively involved in the TCS community. He and his wife, Sue, continue to be present and partner in our ministry by using their talents to serve and invest financially in Trinity Christian School. They too are extremely proud of their daughter Alyssa, TCS Class of 2018, and her accomplishments.

We are happy to announce that we raised close to \$40,000 and are looking forward to bigger and better next year!

Kudos to an extraordinary Benefit Event team: Monica Deets, Leticia Bounds, and Carrie Pilon! And many thanks to an amazing auctioneer, Brian DeBolt of Brian DeBolt Auction Services, Inc., and live auction moderator, Marty Shanahan.

A great time was had by all! Don't miss your opportunity to join the fun and be part of what God is doing here at Trinity Christian School. Save the Date for next year, March 14, 2025.



Empowered to Make a Difference

Deuteronomy 20:4 states, “For the LORD your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you... to give you victory.”

This past November the Illinois State Legislature ended the ***Invest In Kids*** program, which provided scholarships for low-income children to attend private schools. The state legislature took away educational opportunity for children.

This program provided full or partial scholarships for over 40 Trinity students.

Ending the ***Invest In Kids*** program has left a financial gap that not only impacts these children, but Trinity Christian School as a whole, the church, this community, and future generations of believers.

While we are extremely upset and disheartened by this action, we know the God we serve. The legislature abandoned these children, but God never will.

The truth is, we do not need to feel discouraged and helpless because God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment (2 Timothy 1:7). We can feel empowered to make a difference and allow God to use us to bring academic opportunity and God’s truth to these children.

All throughout scripture, God brings ***victory*** through the willing and obedient action of his people. When God moves in this way his people are blessed and he is given the glory!

We need your help to fill the financial gap the state has created. Will you answer this call to allow God to use you in the lives of these children? This is your opportunity to contend for future generations and ensure that we are ***victorious*** in impacting children with academic excellence and the love of Jesus Christ.

Your gift of any size to our Scholarship Fund will allow us to carry out this mission. You can make a secure gift online at: <https://www.trinitychristian.info/about/ways-to-give.cfm>.



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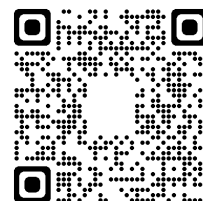
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1. Visit <https://www.trinitychristian.info/about/ways-to-give.cfm> or scan the QR code below.
2. You can give a one-time gift or set up recurring giving for an amount of your choosing.
3. You can choose to give toward our Annual Fund, Scholarships, a memorial gift, or give an Unrestricted Contribution.

Thank you for your support of Trinity Christian School!



“I know our community can rally our giving to help support our scholarship fund and grow that beyond what it has ever seen before! Please consider being a part of Trinity and blessing others by providing scholarships these families can use to make a way for their children being a part of a truly wonderful place!”

Head of School, Jon Vugteveen

Developing Our Teachers



Rachel Woodford, Director of Education

Over the past two years, Trinity has been diligently working to get our teachers certified through the ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International). You may be wondering why that is important, when our teachers are already state certified.

In the process of becoming an ACSI accredited school, we must have evidence that our teachers are teaching from a biblical worldview, as well as have a Christian philosophy of education. Therefore, in the 2022-2023 school year, we worked together as a team to gain a better understanding of a Christian philosophy of education.

What is a Christian philosophy of education? It is seeing things from God's perspective and attempting to follow Christ's example for living in accordance with scripture. This would mean teaching all subjects from the perspective that God and his Word are the ultimate authority.

Throughout the year, we spent time together during our professional development days learning from Dr. Derek Keenan through an online class. He brought great insight and thought to what makes a Christian philosophy of education different from just any philosophy of education. We also read a book together called "By Design," which guided our teachers through forming an intentional philosophy of education centered on Christ. Using these two resources as a foundation, each teacher then wrote a paper detailing their personal view on how to teach using the Christian philosophy of education.

This year we have focused on the biblical integration portion of the ACSI certification requirement. Throughout our professional development days, we have watched a great online class called "Making the Connections: How to Put Biblical Worldview Integration into Practice." This course was led by Don Johnson and Dr. Christian Overman. These two amazing instructors helped each teacher understand that biblically integrating a lesson isn't about just adding a Bible verse, but truly helping students find practical ways to live out what they believe about God in all subjects. It also stressed the importance of understanding who we are in Christ. We also read a book called "Truth Weaving" together to help clarify what biblical integration means for lesson planning and teaching.

Finally, each teacher was required to use knowledge gained throughout these professional development times to create a lesson that showcased their ability to apply biblical integration. All of our teachers did a wonderful job. Each

teacher will be required to do one more lesson in the fall of next year. This will then complete the requirements for them to be ACSI certified.

As a result of both online courses, two books read together, writing a Christian philosophy of education paper, and preparing and presenting a biblically-integrated lesson, our teachers now have a better understanding of what makes a Christian school different from any other private school. As a Christian school and Christian school teachers, we want to raise up students that understand the biblical worldview and understand who they are in Christ. Our desire is to help students understand what God has to say in the Bible about worldview issues. Trinity desires to have students living out their faith and understanding biblical truth.



Go and Be: Spiritual Emphasis Week 2024

Once a year, we take a week as a school to focus on a specific topic relating to spiritual development. During this week, we have chapel on four of the days and spend one of the days doing various service projects in our community. This year, the theme for Spiritual Emphasis Week was "Go and Be." We heard from various missionaries and local outreaches about how we are called to go and be the hands and feet of Jesus in our local communities and around the world.

In our first chapel, we heard from Cup of Cold Water Ministries about what missions is and our calling as Christians to share the story of Jesus with those around us and those far away! We also learned about opportunities for our students to get involved in missions through Cup of Cold Water Ministries.

The next day, we heard from Pastor Nate Ferguson from The Village Christian Church about our calling to be a light that can not be hidden, and ways that we can be a light in our local communities by serving others.

In our third chapel, Pastor Carlos Garcia from Mission Bible Church, and TCS eighth grade student Avery O., spoke about a missions trip to Guatemala they went on last summer. Avery shared about how she learned that the impact of missions is not just in the things they do, but the connections they make with people and the encouragement they can share with each other.

Lastly, we heard from two speakers from MorningStar Mission, a homeless shelter in Joliet that aims to meet both physical and spiritual needs. Our students were encouraged

to pursue Christ and live their lives on mission wherever they go!

A few weeks after Spiritual Emphasis Week, our student council organized a special dress down day fundraiser for MorningStar Mission. As a school, we were able to donate \$487 to MorningStar Mission, along with 280 pairs of socks!

For their service projects throughout the week, kindergarten through second grade students collected donations for the local food pantry and animal shelter, including food donations, animal care products and blankets.

Third grade students collected blankets and activities like crossword puzzles and word searches for our neighbors at Alden Estates nursing home.

Fourth grade students donated school supplies and coloring books for an orphanage in Africa, where Ms. Zakoor's parents are missionaries. They also went to pick up trash around the local pond.

Fifth through eighth grade students spent time packing meals at Feed My Starving Children.

We love to see our students put what they learn in chapel into practice, and they all did an amazing job being the hands and feet of Jesus to those in our local community and around the world!

You can watch all of the Spiritual Emphasis Week chapels on our YouTube channel by visiting www.youtube.com/@trinitychristianshorewood.



Students of the Month



January 2024

Kindergarten
First Grade
Second Grade
Third Grade
Fourth Grade
Fifth Grade
Sixth Grade
Seventh Grade
Eighth Grade

Theodore S. and Chase S.
Jacob M. and Kenzie P.
Ezekiel M. and Charles N.
Andrew S.
Grace M. and Elijah S.
Claire B. and Gretta K.
Khloe D.
Charley L.
Amber R.



February 2024

Kindergarten
First Grade
Second Grade
Third Grade
Fourth Grade
Fifth Grade
Sixth Grade
Seventh Grade
Eighth Grade

Adalynn B. and Maxwell O.
Lincoln A. and Harper H.
Madison M. and Abigail Z.
Olivia J.
Riven D. and Vera R.
Jacqueline B. and Nikolai D.
Reece D.
Daisy V.
Shae S. (Not Pictured)

Summer
Camps &
Enrichment
2024

Registration is now open!

Summer Camps including volleyball, soccer, basketball, dance, and cheerleading, and Academic Enrichment, including robotics, art, sign language, STEAM, math tutoring, summer reading, and more!



March 2024

Kindergarten
 First Grade
 Second Grade
 Third Grade
 Fourth Grade
 Fifth Grade
 Sixth Grade
 Seventh Grade
 Eighth Grade

Grayson B. and Joshua J.
 Olivia B. and Spurgeon D.
 Max N. and James Z.
 Audrey G.
 Camden M. and Vera N.
 Christian P. and Tanner V.
 Carolyn P.
 Brianna L.
 Anna A.

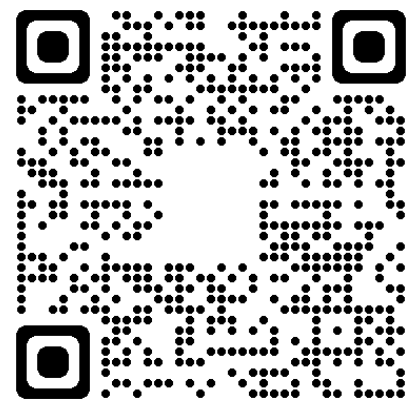


April 2024

Kindergarten
 First Grade
 Second Grade
 Third Grade
 Fourth Grade
 Fifth Grade
 Sixth Grade
 Seventh Grade
 Eighth Grade

Shae D. and Penny S.
 Adalyn A. and Natalie Z.
 Aniyah D. (Not Pictured) and Stella G.
 Makayla L.
 Harper A. and Emily C.
 Caleb B. and Baylee H.
 Royce D.
 Cayden V.
 Danica S.

Check out all of our camps and enrichments on our website: www.trinitychristian.info





Now

Enrolling

Preschool - 8th Grade



**Take A
Virtual
Tour!**

