



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

TINLEY PARK, ILLINOIS 60477

OCTOBER 16, 2011



TRINITY'S BOARD OF CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL REPORT

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

Romans 12:11

The above Scripture passage serves as the basis for Trinity's school theme for the 2011 - 2012 school year. To help the students put God's Word into action Trinity's faculty and staff have taken the liberty to paraphrase Romans 12:11 into a simple three word theme... "Serving Our Savior." You may have seen the banner as it hangs in the sanctuary.

Our heavenly Father loves us so much that he sent His only Son to die for us. Our Lord and Savior, the Father's Son, loves us so much that He willingly gave His life for us that we might enjoy the glories of eternal life. Knowing this, and believing with all of our heart Jesus is the savior of the world, is there any reason why we would not want to serve Him? We are faced with many choices in our short life. We literally make hundreds of decisions each day. By the power of His Holy Spirit we can choose to Serve Our Savior. This is the message we want the students and parents of Trinity to understand as the school year progresses. In all decisions, in all opportunities, and in all matters let our first thought be, "How can I serve my Savior?"

It is our prayer that the students, faculty, staff and parents of Trinity Lutheran School daily learn to Serve Our Savior during the 2011 -2012 school year and throughout their lives. It is our prayer that God's Holy Spirit touches the hearts of our extremely supportive congregational members and the many others who support the valuable ministry of Trinity's Christian day school. It is our prayer that God's grace and peace be poured out upon Trinity Lutheran Church and School. God's richest blessings to all!

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL ACCREDITATION ... In August of 2010 the national commission on accreditation met in St. Louis and granted Trinity full accreditation! During the 2010 - 2011 school year Trinity began work on the individualized school improvement plan as outlined by the visiting NLSA team to maintain accreditation. The plan, as submitted, was accepted and our accreditation maintained. Work on the school improvement plan is a continual process until it is time for re-accreditation again in 2015. Thanks to all the faculty and staff members, for their efforts to maintain national accreditation.



By God's grace and love Trinity Lutheran School opened its doors for the 152nd time on Tuesday, August 23, 2011. Two hundred eighty five (285) students now fill the hallways of Trinity Lutheran School! What a blessing! What a miracle! All praise and thanks to god our Father and His Son for the opportunity to minister to all these lambs of God. Currently seventy - six (76) percent of the children enrolled in Trinity Lutheran School are members of Trinity Lutheran Church. That number will rise as many new families are participating in the new member class now being held.

God continues to bless Trinity Lutheran School. We must never squander His blessings. It is the responsibility by the members of this Board, the faculty, staff, parents, and the members of Trinity Lutheran Church to give God our best at all times. We must do no less. By His power and His grace, the 2011 - 2012 school year will be successful.

THANKS to the many people who spent time this summer re-arranging rooms, re-modeling areas, moving furniture, and improving facilities allowing Trinity to offer a full day 4 year old program. Special **THANKS** to Rich Gerler and Ron Rezek for the many hours they spent.

THE STATE OF THE SCHOOL

CURRICULUM



- Completed the adoption of the new reading series and text books for grades K – 5. Materials for students in grades 3 – 5 were purchased this summer. This was a two year expense because of the cost of textbooks and no funds were available from the Illinois Textbook Loan Program.
- Revised and updated the novel based reading approach for all middle school reading courses.
- Using Title II funds for professional development activities for faculty and staff members. These dollars are available to Trinity through School District 146. Professional development opportunities are affordable with these dollars.
- Preparation for 23 students and 4 adults to attend Walcamp for a week of outdoor education in February. Miss Kloess is the new Walcamp director/ chaperone while Mr. Berg also serves as a faculty chaperone.
- The continuation of Cherub Choir (grades 1 - 3), directed by Miss Amy Holcomb, Middle Grade Choir (grades 4- 6) and Trinity Singers (grades 7 & 8) both directed by Mr. Carl Lisius, and their respective counterpart of music appreciation, along with the Praise Bell Choir, directed by Mrs. Mary Bliss.
- Planning for a spring operetta on April 27 by the Cherub Choir.
- Continuation of the Iowa Test of Basic Skills in grades 2 – 8 as the standardized testing materials given to evaluate curriculum and educational progress. The Kindergarten students use the Metropolitan Readiness Test as their evaluation instrument. Trinity students continue to demonstrate excellence.
- Expanded the 4 PK program to full day status with an option for half days. Maintained the 3 PK program as a morning only opportunity.
- Planning for the every other year Science Fair to be held on Tuesday, January 31, 2012. Trinity's Middle School science teacher, Mr. Berg, is responsible for this activity.
- Continued work on the National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) School Improvement Plan as outlined by the NLSA visiting team. Copies of the visitation's team report are available through the school office.
- Maintained State Recognition as a quality non-public school in the State of Illinois for the 2010 – 2011 school year and made application for the 2011 - 2012 school year.
- Continuation of elective classes for students in grades 6 – 8. Classes for the first semester include Photography, Fun with GEOGRAPHY, Pod Casting 101, Walking for Fitness, and Fairy Tales.



- Purchased seven (7) SMART Interactive Boards and seven (7) lap top computers to assist in instruction. This purchase occurred thanks to generous donations from two families. Trinity now has a SMART interactive white board in all the homeroom classes except 3 PK. Another blessing! Another miracle!

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



- ❖ All classes from K – 8 send correspondence to Trinity Shut-ins on a monthly basis.
- ❖ Students participating in “chapel families” for morning chapel worship again this year.
- ❖ All students in K – 8 have a prayer partner.
- ❖ Participated in the Providence High school Academic Bowl. Their team members achieved individual awards in math and social studies.
- ❖ Participated in the Tinley Park Fire Prevention Poster Contest again this September. Tim Lash, one of Trinity’s seventh (7th) graders was overall winner for grade seven (7).
- ❖ Continued band participation for those students interested in grades 4 – 8.
- ❖ Continuation of the celebration of Baptismal Birthdays for Trinity’s students, faculty, and staff. The Baptismal Birthday gift this year is a multi-colored “Gospel” bracelet created by “Threads of Hope.” The purchase of these bracelets provides for life sustaining income for many families in the Philippines, and allows the love of God to be shared with the hungry and poor.
- ❖ Sponsored a successful Book Fair for Trinity students and families. Mrs. Kathy Gilmore, Trinity’s school librarian, was responsible for this activity.
- ❖ Will participate in the Read to Succeed program for students in grades 1 – 6 beginning in January 2012. Mrs. June Cook is the Read to Succeed coordinator.
- ❖ Continuation with an in-school production of Trinity’s yearbook. Seventh and eighth graders, directed by Mrs. Bliss are responsible for the production of this document.
- ❖ Continuation of the two service organizations: Student Council (grades 5 – 8) and National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) for grades 6 - 8. Miss Laura Piel is the faculty advisor for these organizations.
- ❖ Participation in the National Geographic Geography Bee, scheduled for December. Mr. Huster is responsible for this event.
- ❖ Offering an after-school Spanish Club to all interested students in grades 4 PK – 8.
- ❖ Offering an after school chess club to students in grades 6 -8. Mr. Bill Birk, a Trinity member is leading this activity.
- ❖ The continuation of a peer assistance program, Kids Helping Kids (KHK), using members of Trinity’s National Junior Honor Society as the leaders.

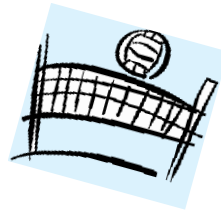


SERVICES

- Maintained involvement in the Federal Milk Program.
- Continuing to work in cooperation with local school district 146 for speech and special education programs, as needed and entitled by IDEA. Over a dozen students receive services from SD 146.
- Using the dollars from the Illinois Safety Block Grant for the purpose of securing items, programs, and curriculum related to the safety of the students.
- Continuation of the valuable Extended Care Program available to families whose students are enrolled at Trinity.
- Maintained involvement with Title funds from the state of Illinois through SD 146.

ATHLETICS

- Maintained membership in the South Suburban Athletic Conference participating in:
 - ◇ Volleyball (grades 5 – 8)
 - ◇ Soccer (grades 6 – 8)
 - ◇ Cheerleading (grades 5 – 8)
 - ◇ Boys' basketball (grades 5 – 8)
 - ◇ Girls' basketball (grades 5 – 8)
 - ◇ Boys' and Girls' Track (grades 5 – 8).



- Boys' volleyball for grades 6 - 8. The South Suburban Athletic Conference doesn't include this sport for boys; consequently, Trinity connects with other area non-public schools for competition.
- Thanks to faculty members and volunteer moms and dads for their help with coaching.
- Administering the Market Day program, through the Booster Club members, during June, July, and August.

PERSONNEL

- Called Miss Laura Piel to replace Miss Emily Heins who is now Mrs. Emily Cicarelli.
- Contracted Mrs. Arlene Lapansky from Lutheran Special Education Ministries, to serve as on-site special education consultant/teacher.
- Contracted Mrs. Jill Hanssen, Mrs. Janet Fasciana, and Mrs. Tracy Griffin as 4 PK educational assistants.
- Contracted Mrs. Karen Rohder as 3 PK educator and Mrs. Amy Greenspan as 3 PK educational assistant.

PTL

- Continuation of Market Day.
- Sponsoring "Bids for Kids" auction to be held on November 12, 2011.



- Sponsored the fall re-sale benefiting Trinity families, Trinity school, and the community
- Plans for a Mom-Son Activity, as well as the Annual Dad-Daughter Date Night and a Family Fun Night. These activities are sponsored by Trinity's PTL, but available to all members of Trinity and their friends.
- Holding bimonthly meetings for educational information and fellowship.
- Sponsoring four Coffee And's... during the school year.
- Assists with financial aid in sending students to Walcamp for out-door education.
- Assists with financial aid for the graduation banquet.
- Purchase the baptismal Birthday gifts for students, faculty and staff.
- Assists with a percentage of the salary for Trinity's Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM) representative, Mrs. Arlene Lapsansky.

MAJOR ITEMS FOR THE 2011 - 2012 SCHOOL YEAR

- ✚ Continuing to evaluate all aspects of the school program as it relates to the school improvement plan based on the recommendations of the NLSA visitation team.
- ✚ Sponsoring Open Houses for the congregation and community in the winter and spring of 2012.
- ✚ Developing a technology plan.
- ✚ Purchasing additional resources for the interactive whiteboards through donations and memorial funds.
- ✚ Continuing to investigate the establishment of an endowment fund.
- ✚ Praising God for His blessings of additional students and considering ways for more of His lambs to attend Trinity.
- ✚ Preparing a budget and determining tuition rates for the 2012 – 2013 school year.
- ✚ Fulfilling regular monthly responsibilities.

ONE OF THE GREAT BLESSINGS AT TRINITY IS THE VOLUNTEERS. MOM, DAD, GRAM, GRANDPA, FRIEND, CONGREGATION MEMBER - YOU ARE APPRECIATED TREMENDOUSLY BY THE FACULTY AND STAFF, AS WELL AS THE STUDENTS AND PARENTS OF TRINITY. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION. MANY OF OUR PROGRAMS WOULD NOT EXIST WITHOUT YOU.

MEMBERS OF TRINITY, YOUR SUPPORT SPIRITUALLY, FINANCIALLY, EMOTIONALLY, AND PHYSICALLY IS VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT TRINITY. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE. GOD'S RICHEST BLESSINGS TO EACH OF YOU AND MAY HIS PEACE BE WITH YOU ALWAYS.



