



## Superintendent's Perspective



*In a couple of weeks, the school year will be over and I will no longer be the "new kid" at Trinity.*

*I'm very excited about the accomplishments of this year and the goals we are setting for next year. I'll share a few of both here:*

- **Summer Camp** is back with a full-day schedule guaranteed to wear out your children and build great memories.
- **Full-day Preschool** is ready to go for 2017-18. We have multiple options for the different needs of our families.
- **Our Community Service program** has been revamped and is already having a big impact on our community and students.
- **New electives and new AP courses** will be offered in 2017-18.
- **Adding Math and Writing Labs** will give our students more practice in these core disciplines.
- **Mentoring programs** for new

Continued on Page 3

## Building A Strong Foundation

Twenty-four seniors eagerly anticipate turning the tassels on their graduation caps on May 26. As with preceding graduating classes, these young men and women share many experiences and memories.

Within the TCS class of 2017, Zoe Crouse, Tessa Kenney, Piper McLaughlin, Hannah Dugan, Emily Double, and Lydia Wagner share a unique bond. They were members of the last kindergarten class at the Alliance Christian School campus when ACS and Trinity High School joined together to form Trinity Christian School in 2004.

Lydia is the class valedictorian. When asked what it was like to learn alongside these girls since her childhood, she responded with a smile. "I just think it's really cool that you get to grow up with them and you get to have those lifelong friends," she said.

Growing up together in a faith-based learning environment from preschool through graduation - that's what Trinity has been able to provide students since the merger.

"These girls who have come all the way through the school exemplify the remarkable opportunity we have to work with students for 13, 14, even 15 years," said Superintendent Michelle Stellato. Acknowledging that a strong foundation begins with early education, she added, "We are excited to offer full-day preschool for the upcoming school year. By expanding our program, we are able to accommodate the needs of our families and give our youngest students a great start in a loving environment."

The close-knit family atmosphere is one of



**Trinity will offer all-day preschool for 3 and 4 year olds beginning with the 2017-18 school year.**

Continued on Page 3



Chris Zeigler chats with her students during morning circle time.

## Q & A with Chris Zeigler

Second grade teacher Chris Zeigler will retire at the end of this school year. We pray God's blessings in this new season of her life.

**How long have you been a teacher? How many years in Christian Education?**

I have been a teacher for 46 years. The last 33 have been in Christian schools. I have taught in four Christian schools: Bowmanville Christian School in Bowmanville, Ontario, Pittsburgh Urban Christian School in Wilkinsburg, PA, and Chestnut Ridge Christian Academy in Uniontown, PA, before coming to Trinity eleven years ago. In fact, this year's Senior Class was my first class when I started at Trinity.

**What is your best memory of teaching?**

There have been so many but my fondest memories have been seeing children develop in their Christian faith.

**How do you plan to spend your retirement?**

I plan to spend a large part of my retirement enjoying my grandchildren. I have two girls who live in Uniontown and a girl and a boy in Pittsburgh. I am so lucky to have them close by.

**What is an interesting fact about you that your students might be surprised to know?**

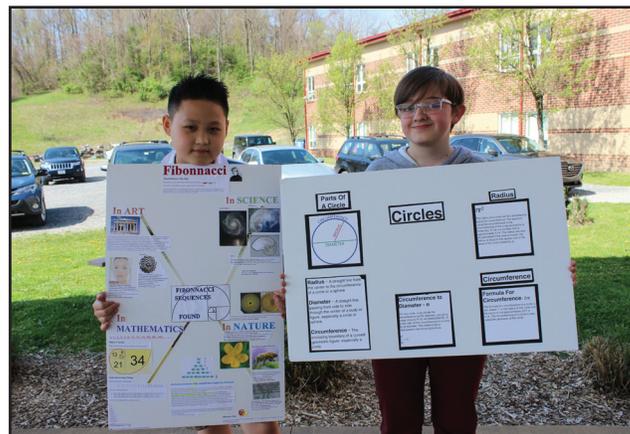
My students may not know that many years ago (well, not that many) I was studying to become an ordained Deacon in the Anglican Church. Those plans ended for many different reasons. Who knows, maybe I will continue my studies!

**What will you miss the most about teaching?**

I will miss so many things: writing lesson plans, checking papers, math. Really I will miss my students the most. Thank you for the opportunity to teach and be a small part of their Christian walk.

## Math Strong and STEM Ready

STEM education is more than a buzz-word at Trinity. Various committees and administrative teams, including the math/science department, are continually evaluating the current curriculum and programs. Their collaborative efforts have led to a number of initiatives in the areas of STEM. Math Strong and i-Ready were two programs that were introduced mid-way through the school year.



A poster contest was held as part of the Math Strong program.

“Math Strong was a six week incentive to promote math across all core disciplines in order to show the importance of math,” said Guidance Counselor Teresa Barnett. “It was also the kick-off to our i-Ready program which has the goal of increasing each student’s math skills according to their individual abilities.”

“It was a fun time for students to use math in all of their subjects,” elaborated secondary math teacher Carrie Breakey. “We ended the program with a celebration for Pi day.”

Through individualized and self-paced online instruction, i-Ready challenges students in grades 6 and 7 to expand their math skills.

“Math is integral to all the other STEM disciplines, so we want to make sure that our kids have a strong foundation specifically in math,” said secondary math teacher Nicole Arias.



The school announced that the math and science curriculum will be updated for the 2017-18 school year. The unprecedented decision, to invest this heavily in math and science in a single year, will greatly impact students’ learning.

The new curriculum will feature hands-on conceptual learning for grades kindergarten through 8.

## Building a Strong Foundation (cont. pg.1)

Lydia's favorite parts about attending Trinity. She pointed out that, "A lot of the teachers have been around since I started. It just shows that they care - they stick around."

That caring environment is key to building a strong foundation in students' lives: spiritually, academically, emotionally, physically, and socially. Senior Piper McLaughlin summed it up well when she said, "I feel so much more confident and so much more at ease going to a public university next year because I have that knowledge now and I have a matured faith now, because of the impact the teachers have left on my life."



**A middle school student reads to a preschooler on a Mentor Monday.**

## Mentor Monday

Whether in a lively gym filled with laughter or a quiet classroom with clusters of students softly reading aloud, Mentor Monday takes on a variety of forms. That's the beauty of this new venture with the goal of capitalizing on Trinity's preschool through grade 12 student body.

Mentor Mondays are the result of the faculty and administration brainstorming ways to encourage opportunities to mentor by pairing older students with their younger counterparts. Relationships are being cultivated through secondary students being "buddies" with elementary students for service projects, academic games, or classroom activities.

First grader Ridge Murdock has enjoyed the time with the eighth grade buddies. "We did activities and got to color."

When the students met at the beginning of the year, Ridge said they became acquainted by sharing their favorite foods and hobbies. He found they had common ground in some favorite snacks.

This year, the twelfth-grade class was paired with the fifth-grade. Senior Taylor White said the combined activities this year included academic games and team-building activities. She felt the mentor relationships have been beneficial. "Taking the fifth-graders under our wing, I think it's kind of helped them come out of their shells a little more."

## Making History



**Fifth-graders (L to R) Hannah Hughes, Ben Lohmann, and Ben Carpenter will travel to the National History Bee in Atlanta.**

Eight students recently became the largest group in school history to qualify for the National History Bee. Qualifying for the bee earned the students an opportunity to compete in Atlanta, GA in early June.

Eighth-grader Jo Leonard will be making the trip to the National Bee. "It was really exciting for me, because I didn't think I was going to make it," said Jo, adding that she was studying now to prepare for her upcoming trip to Atlanta.

When Ben Lohmann was asked what he was looking forward to about competing, the fifth-grader said, "Just the experience - knowing that you're there - and to be in Atlanta. It's a great city."

Debbie Dennis, Secondary Principal, was proud of the students' accomplishments, noting, "We're excited that this many students were well-prepared to move on to the next round."



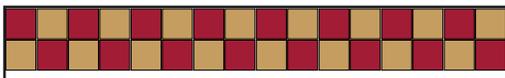
**Middle school students (L to R) Trevor Cooke, Gabe Turak, Zach Murray, Ethan Thomas, and Jo Leonard also qualified for the National History Bee.**

## Superintendent's Perspective (cont. pg.1)

*teachers, new families and new students are being designed by our faculty and staff.*

*It has been an amazing first year and I have grown so much through serving in this ministry. Thank you for entrusting us with your children!*

# Alumni News



*Save the Date*  
Saturday, September 30, 2017



**TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**  
*20 Year Celebration*

Join us in commemorating  
the 1997 opening of Trinity High School.

*More details coming soon!  
E-mail [trinitytwenty@tcsww.org](mailto:trinitytwenty@tcsww.org)  
to be added to our contact list.*

## This fall marks 20 years since the first day of classes at the newly formed Trinity High School in 1997!

We are planning to celebrate this landmark on September 30, 2017 with a special gathering. We can't wait to reconnect with former students, faculty, staff, coaches, board members, and other friends of Trinity. We hope you will make plans to join us that day. More details are soon to follow.

Please help us spread the word by liking our Alumni Facebook page at [facebook.com/tcswwalumni/](https://facebook.com/tcswwalumni/) and inviting other Trinity grads to do the same. You can also e-mail us at [trinitytwenty@tcsww.org](mailto:trinitytwenty@tcsww.org) to be added to our contact list.

**Whether or not you are able to come, we want to keep in touch!** Please submit your contact information through our website at [tcsww.org/connect/alumni/](http://tcsww.org/connect/alumni/) or email Jeannine Kelley at [jkelly@tcsww.org](mailto:jkelly@tcsww.org).

**We look forward to hearing from you!**



## TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

200 Trinity Way • Morgantown, WV 26505



**Senior Piper McLaughlin was named a 2017 West Virginia Student Symphonic Fellow.**



Like us on  
Facebook

*Thank you to our Partners in Education: Citynet, First United Bank & Trust, and PikeWood Creative and Corporate Partner MedExpress*

Trinity Christian School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic or other school administered programs.