



## Superintendent's Perspective



**Superintendent Mrs. Stellato Belt**

*In the driveway behind the school, there's an old rusty grate that covers a large water drain. On a recent prayer walk I noticed an impressive sight inside that drain. At some point in the last two years, a tiny seed managed to plant itself within the drain system and now a small tree is beginning to push against the confines of the drain and the grate. I am convinced that without intervention our tiny tree will continue to grow until its presence is fully known by all who pass through the road that encircles the school. Perhaps you might have passed it and kept going, but for me, discovering this tree has been fascinating.*

*You see, my grandmother always said to me, "Bloom where the Lord plants you" and I believe that is exactly what we are doing at Trinity right now. We are blooming. This year, we were*

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## Experiential Learning

You've heard it said that experience is the best teacher, and our faculty has taken that to heart!

Digging in the dirt, touring monuments in the nation's capital, examining the intricacies of a beetle's wings—this year the administration has committed to being more intentional about providing students with increased opportunities for Experiential Learning.

As a prime example, the entire high school traveled to Washington, D.C. for an immersive, cross-curricular educational trip that included visits to the National Museum of American History, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, numerous memorials and Arlington National Cemetery.

The Vietnam Memorial was a highlight for senior Cam Kellar, whose grandfather fought in Vietnam. "It's

really cool knowing there is a story behind every name."

Engaging the students on a personal and sensory level, cultivating their observational skills, and maximizing cross-discipline learning are just a few of the benefits students enjoy from experiential learning.

Rather than just read about soil and insects, the fourth-grade class visited the WVU Organic Farm, Greenhouse, and Entomology Museum. During the trip Dr. Jim Thompson, a soil scientist, explained soil mapping and how to analyze soil pits while Entomologist Vicki Kondo assisted students with their understanding and exploration of insects.

The soil pits were a favorite of fourth-grader Jonathon Sheffstall. He shared

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**The kindergarten classroom is filled with living plants and creatures this spring including incubating eggs.**





**Mrs. Sarah Wolfe interacts with one of her students.**

## Q & A with Sarah Wolfe

**What has it been like adjusting to Trinity as a new faculty member?**

From the moment I began my job at Trinity it felt like home. I think that is one attribute of a place where everyone is working for Christ. It just feels like home from the beginning. Three days of the week the staff gets together at 7:25 a.m. to share devotional time. This is a wonderful time to center ourselves in front of Christ as a team. It is a constant reminder that we are serving students and families together, in a supportive environment. I feel blessed to be surrounded by a talented, loving, staff. I have enjoyed my fourth grade class so much this year. They are an amazing group of children and I have learned so much from them. I came in as a new teacher and they were very welcoming. They continue to impress with their depth of love for Christ and love for others. Their families have been extremely supportive and it has been a great year.

**Can you share a fact about yourself that might surprise your students?**

Some of my favorite (and more exciting) memories are from college. I was the captain of my college softball team. Go Allegheny Gators! I played center field and my favorite part about the sport is fielding fly balls. I also was blessed to have the opportunity to study abroad my junior year of college. I attended James Cook University in Townsville, Australia. My adventures while studying abroad in Australia included skydiving, scuba diving (we went on a midnight dive and saw a shark and a box jellyfish), and taking a class where I learned how to make a fire in the wilderness. I dream of going back to visit Australia someday.

**Outside of the classroom, what is your favorite activity?**

I have to say reading and trail running are my top favorite ways to unwind. Who can resist the Bible or another good

book on the couch with some ginger tea? Not me! Trail running in the woods is also super fun. I like to take my dog, Kaya, on runs through the woods. As a family, we love to camp throughout the summer. It is always nice to get away from the busyness of home and sleep in the woods for a few nights! We hope to explore different parts of West Virginia this summer.

## Astronaut Visits Campus



**Astronaut Colonel Jerry Ross addressed the entire student body in January.**

Astronaut Jerry Ross shares the world record for his seven space flights and ranks second among NASA astronauts for both the number of spacewalks and time logged on spacewalks. Now retired, Colonel Ross shared his experiences and his faith to motivate and encourage Trinity students to dream big and trust God.

In his opening remarks, Colonel Ross had students repeat the words, “I am special. I am unique. I can do anything I can dream with God’s help if I work hard and study enough.”

Following the declaration, the students attentively listened as Colonel Ross shared his story and his Christian faith to further fuel their aspirations. He used images and video to show the progression of his humble beginnings to his adventures in space, then fielded questions from the student body.

Before closing the program, Colonel Ross took one last opportunity to encourage and inspire by leading the students to again recite the words with which he began, “I can do anything I can dream with God’s help if I work hard and study enough.”

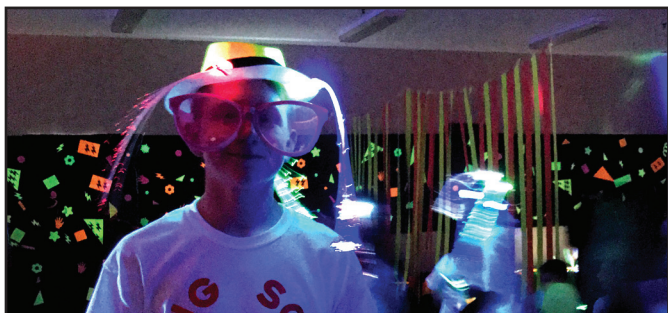


## Experiential Learning (cont. pg.1)

that on the trip he learned, “If your soil is wet you don’t want to build a house on there because your house will either sink or just fall apart.”

Taking the classroom outside the school walls also increases opportunities for meaningful relational and spiritual interactions. Teacher and D.C. trip chaperone Jennifer Emery was particularly moved when the students and chaperones held hands to pray during their visit to Arlington National Cemetery, not far from the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

“There we stood for all the world to see that we honor our country and we honor our God,” she said. “The trip to D.C. was academic, but it was so much more. It brought our students closer together, closer to their teachers, and maybe even closer to God.”



## Middle School Life

Do you remember middle school? You’re too old to play with toys but not old enough to drive. Sometimes you’re not sure where you fit in.

To help students navigate middle school, Trinity parents formed the Middle School Life committee with great results! To date, the energetic group has organized 3 seasonal events for the students. This past fall, the students roasted hot dogs and marshmallows over a bonfire, played games on the field, and competed in a corn-hole tournament. Parent Mike Teets shared a short testimony to round out the social.

“Jingle Jam” was a send-off for Christmas break. Stations filled the gym, offering students a variety of food and activities such a taco bar, sweet treats, a photo booth and games.

For spring, a glow party with the theme “Here we Glow Again” was based on Proverbs 4:18, a verse chosen by the students. Wearing neon shirts designed by one of their classmates, the kids ate, played games, and danced to music played by a D.J.

A sports banquet to honor the middle school athletes will round out the year.

## Basketball Teams Travel to States



The 2017-18 basketball season was one that our students will remember for a long time.

The Lady Warriors finished its season (13-13) in the top eight at the State Tournament in Charleston, W.Va., in addition to earning the Sectional and Regional Championship titles. The varsity boys’ basketball team (19-8) finished in the top four at the State Tournament and was earned both the OVAC and Sectional Championship titles. In addition, Emily Saurborn, Reagan Sharp, and Joseph Zini joined the 1000 point club. Congratulations on a great season, Warriors!



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

*called upon to “Be Strong and Courageous” and we have most certainly done that. From State Tournament trips, to expanding the walls of our classrooms in experiential endeavors and beyond, the Lord has blessed us with many opportunities to stand strong in His name and be courageous in working for Him. Just like the tree in the back, our students and our school are continuing to grow in every area possible. Just like the tree in the back, we will continue to be strong and courageous. My prayer for us is that Trinity and our commitment to His service will continue to be a presence in whatever places and adventures he plants us. May we be stronger today than we were yesterday and may we always continue to bloom where we are planted.*



## Alumni News



Hope Donham walks with a child in Gbentchal.

**Josh Keys '03** began a new job as assistant women's basketball coach at Western Carolina University. He and wife Christy now reside in Cullowhee, North Carolina, with their two children Melora (4) and David (2) and their Labrador River.

**Hope Donham '15** traveled to Gbentchal in Togo, West Africa two years in a row. On both trips, her team held Children's Camps and revivals resulting in hundreds of children and adults coming to know Jesus. They also helped to supply vitamins/medicine, register children for school, and meet every day needs of orphans.

**Jerid Jento '12** is stationed at Eglin AFB in Florida. He works with next generation weapons systems while working towards a bachelors in business as well as studying applied science of weapons systems through the military. He is married and has 2 dogs.

**Alea Hess '14** was accepted into Shenandoah University's Doctorate of Physical Therapy program and will be attending there in the fall. She will graduate from West Virginia Wesleyan College with a B.S. in Exercise Science with minors in Business, Human Biology, and Psychology in the May.

**Trinity Graduates:** We want to keep in touch! Please submit your contact information through our website at [tcs.wv.edu/org/connect/alumni/](http://tcs.wv.edu/org/connect/alumni/) and like our Facebook alumni page at [fb.me/tcs.wvalumni](https://fb.me/tcs.wvalumni). We look forward to hearing from you!



TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

200 Trinity Way • Morgantown, WV 26505



Shawnee Jenkins became Trinity's first State Champion in Track with her win in the 100 meter hurdles!



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*Thank you to our Partners in Education: Citynet, First United Bank & Trust, and PikeWood Creative and Charter Supporter of Trinity Athletics 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.

# School Advancement Updates

Spring 2018



## Hoop-A-Thon Success

Our 2018 Hoop-A-Thon that took place on Friday, March 2 yielded a tremendous show of support. **208 students** participated, who together raised **more than \$15,000** through the support of **570 individual sponsors** and help of **26 volunteers!** Our Hoop-A-Thon committee and school administration were greatly encouraged by the show of support in both participation and dollars raised!

To better engage our middle and high school students this year, we offered our secondary Hoop-A-Thon students to participate in teams instead of only individuals. Students recruited coaches, teachers, and staff members to shoot hoops on their team.

Additionally, our preschool and kindergarten students met a special guest on Hoop-A-Thon day— Choosy! The green, fun-loving character Choosy danced with students and cheered on our students. *(continued on back)*

## Gifts of Time = Great Impact!

Thank you to our more than **419 individual volunteers** who give more than **4,542 hours** in service each academic year! Gifts of time make a tremendous impact on our students' learning experiences at Trinity!

Programs and events in which parents and family members invest their volunteer time include:

Fall Festival  
Read-A-Loud  
Open House Tours  
Elementary Chapel Speaker  
Secondary Chapel Speaker

*(continued on back)*

# Thank you

FOR GIVING TO OUR MORTGAGE ELIMINATION CHALLENGE IN 2017!

## \$64,340.76

RAISED IN TOTAL FOR THE  
MORTGAGE ELIMINATION CHALLENGE

Thank you to our board members, faculty and staff members, and families who contributed to our 2017 MEC! With only 54 mortgage payments remaining, you have helped us move one step closer to being mortgage-free!

## Support Trinity

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of an immaterial or financial gift to advance Trinity Christian School's mission and vision. Please complete **all** of the information below and on the back of this tear off, so we may properly recognize your gift. Once detached, please mail or return to Trinity Christian School, attn. School Advancement Coordinator at 200 Trinity Way, Morgantown, WV 26505.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes, I would like to receive updates about the school's activities and advancement efforts.

(**"Hoop-A-Thon"** continued from front)

The Hoop-A-Thon event is designed to engage students in a fun activity while raising support for Trinity's annual fund. Each year, students gather sponsors on a per-hoop pledge or one-time, flat donation basis. Students in grades preschool through grade 12 then shoot as many hoops or hula-hoop continuously within a 5-minute time frame.

We are thankful for God's blessing on this year's Hoop-A-Thon fundraiser event for the advancement of His work at Trinity!

## Corporate Sponsorships

As part of our annual advancement plan, we welcome businesses to partner with us as a corporate sponsor! Corporate Sponsorships are an annual financial commitment opportunity with specific benefits according to the level of commitment. Thank you to our 2017-18 Corporate Sponsors!

### Lead Warrior Sponsors

**BMEC, Inc.**  
**Citynet**

### Courageous Warrior Sponsors

**Anderson Excavating**  
**Laurel Aggregates**

### Honorable Warrior Sponsors

**Bond Insurance**  
**Falcon Consulting & Management**  
**GreenPro Environmental**  
**Cira & Associates Consulting**  
**Coen Energy**  
**Leslie Equipment Company**

Please contact [kmorgan@tcsww.org](mailto:kmorgan@tcsww.org) to receive a 2018-19 Corporate Sponsorship information packet.

(**"Gifts of Time"** continued from front)

Board of Directors  
PSO  
Homeroom Parents/Class Parties  
Academic Committee  
Advancement Committee  
Athletic Committee  
Finance Committee  
Middle School Committee  
Recruitment & Retention Committee  
Spiritual Life Committee  
Athletic Concessions  
Game Day Gate Collection  
Elementary Volunteer Coaches  
Middle School Volunteer Coaches  
Varsity Volunteer Coaches  
Book Club  
Hoop-A-Thon  
Veterans Day Program  
Grandparents Day Program  
A Breakfast with Characters  
Christmas/Spring Concerts  
Class Field Trips  
Community Service Day Transportation

**THANK YOU** to our volunteers who help the Trinity "engine" go and make possible these opportunities for our students and community!

## Questions?

If you have any questions about school advancement, donations, or how to get involved at Trinity, please contact one of our Advancement staff members at 304-291-4659.

## Trinity Christian School

[www.tcsww.org](http://www.tcsww.org)

304-291-4659

[facebook.com/tcsww](https://facebook.com/tcsww)



## My Gift Amount

Please complete all the information below, so we may properly recognize your gift. All gifts are tax-deductible. You may mail or return to Trinity Christian School, attn. School Advancement Coordinator at 200 Trinity Way, Morgantown, WV 26505. All financial gifts are tax-deductible.

I would like to give a gift to Trinity Christian School by:

- ☐ Praying  
☐ Volunteering on a Committee  
☐ Volunteering for Read-A-Loud  
☐ Volunteering on an as-needed basis  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ a gift of \$25  
☐ a gift of \$50  
☐ a gift of \$100  
☐ Other amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My gift is ☐ monthly ☐ one-time

Financial gift submitted via: ☐ Check ☐ Cash

\*Checks payable to "Trinity Christian School"

- ☐ Yes, I would like to receive a written receipt for my financial gift via email.  
☐ Yes, I would like my gift to remain anonymous.