



Fall 2019

Warrior Express

A Publication of Trinity Christian School

Superintendent's Perspective



Superintendent Mrs. Stellato Belt

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Our annual theme (Matthew 5:14-16) reminds us that we are to let our light shine before others. We take this calling seriously. Each day we encourage our students to glorify God in their academic endeavors, their athletic and artistic talents, and their relationships with others.

This year is off to an amazing start. God continues to pour out His blessings on Trinity Christian School. For the first time in almost a decade, our enrollment grew to over 300. God blessed us with 325

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Starting Strong in Preschool

The importance of a good start can never be emphasized enough. Recognizing this, the preschool team at Trinity is devoted to seeing early learners have a great beginning to their school experience.

"At Trinity Christian Preschool we believe that all children are a gift from God and that the years of early childhood provide a unique opportunity to encourage, inspire and establish strong educational practices and lay the foundation for an education for life," said Pre-K3 Teacher Kendra Sainato (pictured above).

To provide the best environment, the preschool classrooms are equipped with interactive stations, well-designed learning spaces, and purposeful play areas to encourage each student's

healthy growth and development.

Mrs. Sainato added, "We nurture child development in all aspects of growth with hands-on learning while celebrating the children's individual gifts and encouraging each one to reach his or her highest potential."

Staying true to the school's mission and vision to equip students with a Christ-centered worldview, the teachers aim to provide early childhood learning experiences based on Biblical principles. The curriculum is designed to supplement and foster learning in the home, and to help each child make a smooth transition between home and elementary school.

As students transition into the K4 class, the teachers use age-appropriate

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Preschool aide Andrea Steptoe instructs a student in the classroom.



Jessica Duling with husband Matt, and sons Lex (bottom left) and Elijah (bottom right).

Q & A with Jessica Duling, High School English Teacher

Q – You have experience teaching in other schools before coming to Trinity. What makes your teaching role at Trinity unique?

A – Before joining the faculty at Trinity, I taught for several years in Marion County. I have loved my role in the classroom at every school I have taught; however, teaching at Trinity has been unique in so many wonderful ways. The small class sizes allow me to teach to individuals and truly meet students where they are in order to best help them reach their full potential. The relationships I've built with students and families has played an even larger role in classroom success than I anticipated. Trinity's model to operate as a cord of three strands is a blessing to me as both a parent of students here and in my role as teacher because it reminds me that we are all working together to help one another fulfill God's purpose for our lives.

Q – What is your favorite Bible verse?

A – My favorite Bible verse comes from the book of Proverbs 16:24, which reads, "Kind words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones." This verse reminds me that the Word of God is full of life-giving promises and, when life gets hard, His Word brings me back to the foundation upon which I try to build my life.

Q – Outside of the school environment, what is your favorite activity?

A – Outside of school, I most enjoy spending time with my family. As my boys get older, I find myself inside of a gymnasium much of the year. When we aren't on a basketball court, we enjoy snow-skiing in the winter and traveling to South Carolina in the summer months.

Q- Can you share a fun fact about yourself that might surprise your students?

A – My students might be surprised to know that observing Orca Whales in the wild is at the top of my bucket list. This June my family is traveling to Orca Island on the coast of Washington state to whale watch. We are very excited!



Students in the technical elective study electronics in the second quarter.

Getting Technical

For the first time, high school students can choose to take Engineering, Technical, and Computer Science as an elective.

Adjunct instructor Marcus Fisher, Chief Engineer for NASA and Assistant Professor for the Information Systems Management program at Fairmont State University, is using his experience to introduce students to various technology topics. According to Fisher, the goal is for students to leave the class with the knowledge to build web applications, understand basic electronics and circuits, as well as program and understand basic robotics.

The first quarter was devoted to programming; the students built and deployed a basic web application using HTML, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) and JavaScript. In the second quarter, the students assembled a navigable robot using basic circuits and arduino microcontrollers, as well as learned how to command and control the vehicle through wireless communications.

The high school elective builds upon the success of the middle school coding elective introduced in the 2018-19 school year. In May, two middle school coding students, Daniel Han and Adelyn Tager, won the West Virginia's Middle School Cyber-Robotics Coding Competition.

Adelyn said she really liked learning the new languages of code last year. When asked about the competition, she said, "That was our first year doing it. I definitely didn't expect to win." The middle school students plan to compete again this spring.

Starting Strong (cont.)

instructional and play-based methods to form a foundation of strong pre-reading and pre-writing skills.

Mrs. Sainato expressed the heart of the program when she said, "School should be a positive experience with adults who care about the whole child and their family. Our preschool is a ministry to the parents and children of the community."

The Trinity preschool program offers flexibility to meet the specific needs of families. Parents can choose from half-day or full-day options for both Pre-K3 and Pre-K4.



Pre-K4 Teacher Patti Garrity reads to children during circle time.

Finding a Calling

Junior Taylie Dulin is over a year away from graduating but she is already gaining invaluable experience in her chosen field. With an interest in becoming an elementary teacher, Taylie serves as a teacher assistant (T.A.) for Mrs. Stinoski's first grade class.

Before serving as a T.A., Taylie considered pediatric nursing as a career. She said she always wanted to help people in some way. Now she sees firsthand the difference she can make in students' lives by encouraging and helping them learn new things or tackle new skills.

"It's just so awesome to see their minds grow and their hearts get bigger," she said.



Taylie Dulin (center back) poses with first grade students.

Rebuilding the Band



Seventh-graders Landon Murdock (right) and Noah Toler (left) try on their uniforms.

The Warrior Marching Band is well on its way to having a successful year under the guidance of new band director Chris Dickey. Currently, the band is comprised of 18 middle school and 11 high school band students.

Four middle school students participated in the annual Middle School Honor Band at the end of November. They were chosen by Mr. Dickey to represent Trinity at the event which was held at Marshall University. These musicians rehearsed and performed with top middle school band students from all across West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky. Most recently, the band represented the school in the Morgantown Christmas parade.

"I am very encouraged to see what the band has achieved as a whole just since the beginning of the school year," said Mr. Dickey. "Students are progressing well as instrumentalists, and marching is beginning to become consistent. I am very proud of the TCS Warrior Band, and I cannot wait for what the coming years are to bring!"

Superintendent's Perspective (cont.)

students and provided highly qualified staff to lead the additional classrooms this student blessing required. The influx of students has required us to find creative ways to maximize our resources and facilities. In the final weeks leading up to the start of school, classrooms were moved and rearranged, and desks and chairs purchased—through a generous donation—to accommodate the new students.

As we pause to reflect and express our appreciation for the growth in our school, our athletic programs, and our arts department, we realize all that we have and all that we do is because of Him. As Luke 12:48 says, to whom much is given, much is expected. May we continue to shine like stars in the night and be the city on the hill. May we be faithful to share His love and good deeds with our community.

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Fourteen businesses have committed to 2019-20 Corporate Sponsorship! We are so thankful for their support as they contribute greatly to our ability to continue educating students for life.

Trinity offers four levels of Corporate Sponsorship and various additional advertising options. If you're interested in Trinity sponsorship, please reach out to Olivia Kelley at okelley@tcsww.org.



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TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

200 Trinity Way • Morgantown, WV 26505

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School Advancement Updates

Fall 2019



Fall Festival Fun

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our 2019 Fall Festival! It would not have been possible without everyone who attended or those who volunteered time, energy, and funds. Attendees had a wonderful time shopping from vendors, playing in bounce houses, riding the hay ride, seeing animals at the petting zoo, and more. We were blessed to raise over \$5,000 from the event!

We would also like to thank **Auto Max, Clear Mountain Bank, Valley Healthcare System** and our **2019-20 Corporate Sponsors** for sponsoring the event!

We Met Our Giving Tuesday Goal!

During this year's Giving Tuesday fundraiser, we received an overwhelmingly positive response and are proud to say that our goal of \$2,500 was exceeded! We are incredibly grateful to have garnered donations from a variety of supporters, including current families, families of Trinity alumni, and others.

GIVING
TUESDAY

TOGETHER,
WE RAISED \$2,500!

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

Alumni News

Sara (McClymonds) Karsten '06 and her husband Wes are doing well and still living near Wheaton, Illinois. They celebrated nine years of marriage in October. "We have three boys who fill our home with joy and keep us on the move - Ben is five, Charlie is three, Will is one. God has been immensely gracious to us!"



Sara and Wes Karsten pose with their children.

Joshua Friend '09 is a software engineer at Ramsey Solutions, a company owned by radio host Dave Ramsey. He builds websites and applications for the authors and speakers on the Ramsey Personalities team in an effort to help the speakers bring their messages of hope and wisdom to larger audiences through the internet. Josh is married to his high school sweetheart Ashley, and they have three beautiful girls with whom he has "way more fun than there is space to write here." He is "always speechless at how good God is and how much he blesses us."

Richie '05 and Olivia (Smith) '08 Rohrsen welcomed their second daughter on Oct 31st. Her name is Lindsey Elyse Rohrsen.

Matthew Caridi '13 is a videographer for Blum USA near Charlotte, North Carolina. Blum is an Austrian company that produces hardware for kitchens and other living areas in the home. He moved to Charlotte in May 2019 after graduating from WVU and working as a Video Producer at PikeWood Creative in Morgantown. While at PikeWood, he was an associate producer of the feature documentary "Hot Rod" and was the video producer for MetroNews Talkline and Sportsline.



Josh and Ashley Friend and family.

Andrew Caridi '13 is the sports director at WEPM, WLTF and WICL in Martinsburg, WV. He announces football and basketball for Shepherd University and Martinsburg High School. Andrew received the 2019 West Virginia Broadcaster Association's best play-by-play award for his football coverage voted on by media peers in Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio. He was also recognized as a top-ten collegiate broadcaster by the Sportscasters Talent Agency of America (STAA) in a national competition voted on by sports broadcasting professionals.

Sam Dale '16 will graduate from University of Toronto in the spring of 2020 with an Honours Bachelor of Science in Human Biology and a second major in Bioethics. Last semester, Sam had the wonderful opportunity to study abroad at University of Vienna and live in Vienna, Austria for six months. Sam said the experience "was truly amazing and broadened my horizons." He is aiming to go to law school after graduation.

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