

VISION

TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

SPRING 25

A Year of Growth



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A Year of Growth at Trinity Christian School



Celebrating State Recognition and ACSI Accreditation

Jon Vugteveen, Head of School

This past school year has been one of remarkable progress, encouragement, and affirmation for Trinity Christian School. As we reflect on the journey we've shared, we are filled with gratitude for the ways God has guided and blessed our school community.

Two particularly significant milestones have marked this as a year of growth: renewing our official state recognition and full accreditation through the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

Both achievements speak to the strength of our mission, the dedication of our faculty and staff, and the excellence of the education we provide to our students.

State Recognition: Meeting Standards with Integrity

Receiving full recognition from the State Board of Education affirms that Trinity Christian School meets or exceeds the educational standards set by the state of Illinois. This means that our curriculum, instructional practices, facilities, and faculty qualifications align with the expectations of public and private institutions statewide.

More than a checkbox, this recognition is a validation of the hard work that goes into each lesson plan, every staff development initiative, and the continuous improvement of our academic programs. It assures our families that a Trinity education is grounded and academically robust.

ACSI Accreditation: Excellence with a Kingdom Purpose

Perhaps even more meaningful to our mission is our newly earned accreditation from the Association of Christian Schools International. ACSI accreditation is a rigorous, multi-year process that evaluates not just academic performance, but the spiritual formation and biblical integration woven into every part of school life.

This process included a comprehensive self-study, detailed evaluations by outside educators, and strategic goal-setting for continued development. It required the full cooperation of our faculty, leadership, parents, and board—and we're proud to say we passed with high commendations along with several recommendations for improvement. We are awaiting the final approval vote by the ACSI Commission in June.

Through this accreditation, Trinity is recognized as a school committed to educating the whole child—mind, heart, and spirit—and to cultivating a Christ-centered culture of learning and discipleship.

Looking Ahead with Confidence

These achievements are more than honors — they are springboards. State recognition and ACSI accreditation open doors to new academic opportunities, enhanced credibility for our students, and partnerships with other Christian schools across the country. Most importantly, they affirm that we are walking faithfully in our mission:

"To equip students to be disciples for Christ applying their knowledge in creative and responsive ways to life and the world around them."

We are so grateful to our teachers, staff, board members, parents, and students who played a vital role in reaching these milestones. And we give all glory to God, whose grace has sustained and guided Trinity every step of the way.

As we look forward to the next school year, we will be forming action plans as we look to address recommendations for growth and continue working towards being a stronger and more sustainable school for all. We do so with hearts full of hope, a renewed commitment to excellence, and an ever-deepening trust in the Lord who makes all things grow.

In His Grip,

Jon Vugteveen
Head of School



Students of the Month



January 2025

Kindergarten	John E. and Jack N.
First Grade	Adalynn B. and Ivette R.
Second Grade	Asiago C. and Aria G.
Third Grade	Stella G. and Veronica L.
Fourth Grade	Haley D. and Makayla L.
Fifth Grade	Michael B. and Vera R.
Sixth Grade	Carter A. and Simone C.
Seventh Grade	Jaclyn B.
Eighth Grade	Ava C.



February 2025

Kindergarten	Dorothy B. and Jordan H.
First Grade	Maren D. and Roman F.
Second Grade	Finlee H. and Scott N.
Third Grade	Ezekiel M. and Samantha P.
Fourth Grade	Elena O. and Mackenzie W.
Fifth Grade	Grace M. and Jonathan N.
Sixth Grade	London H. and Tanner V.
Seventh Grade	Nathan V.
Eighth Grade	Addison Z.



March 2025

Kindergarten	Jeyah M. and Catalina N.
First Grade	Maxwell O. and Penelope S.
Second Grade	Oliver B. and Spurgeon D.
Third Grade	Addison H. and Avianna P.
Fourth Grade	Brynn S. and Andrew S.
Fifth Grade	Riven D. and Vera R.
Sixth Grade	Claire B. and Christian P.
Seventh Grade	Olivia C.
Eighth Grade	Sofia C.



April 2025

Kindergarten	Claire M. and Isla V.
First Grade	Hannah R. and Alexander S.
Second Grade	Edie F. and Emylee W.
Third Grade	Max N. and James Z.
Fourth Grade	Olivia J. and Alyse T.
Fifth Grade	Camden M. and Helena N.
Sixth Grade	Carter D. and Reagan L.
Seventh Grade	Ariel R.
Eighth Grade	Sara F.

SPORTS UPDATES

Girls' Basketball

Our girls' basketball teams both had great seasons in the late winter. Our 5th/6th grade team played a great season under the leadership of Coach Stonitsch and Coach Fabbre. Our 7th/8th grade team, led by Coach Gearlds and Coach Deeter, placed second overall in the ICC tournament. Congratulations to players Taylor K. and Sara F. for making the All Tournament team!

Boys' Volleyball

It's been a few years since we had a boys' volleyball team, but this year we were excited to offer a short season coached by Coach Deeter! The boys had fun matchups against our girls' volleyball team, TCS staff members, and played other boys' volleyball teams from Calvary Christian, Nettle Creek, and Taft School. These boys played great games, and we hope to see continued interest in a boys' volleyball team!



5th/6th GIRLS' BASKETBALL



7th/8th GIRLS' BASKETBALL



BOYS' VOLLEYBALL

SPORTS AWARDS CEREMONY

We recognized all of our student athletes at our Sports Awards Ceremony, with coaches from each team sharing affirmations for their players and giving awards for Most Valuable Player, Most Improved Player, and Christian Character Award for each team.

We also recognized two students who were awarded Athlete of the Year. The Athlete of the Year award is presented annually to a TCS athlete or athletes who demonstrates outstanding dedication to the school's athletic program. The recipient is chosen through nominations by coaches and a selection process involving staff input, and prayer. Selection is based on athletic performance, Christian character, team impact, participation in multiple sports, leadership, and academics.

Congratulations to Jacob V. and Cayden V. for receiving this award!

We also awarded the Brent Haas Athletic Service Award. The Brent Haas Athletic Service Award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to the Trinity Christian School athletic program through dedication, hard work, and a servant's heart. Named after Brent Haas—a beloved teacher, coach, and mentor whose life and faith deeply impacted the school—the award recognizes someone who reflects his selfless spirit, loyalty to TCS, and commitment to advancing God's kingdom through athletics and the growth of young athletes.

This year, we were happy to award the Brent Haas Service Award to Mr. Jon Vugteveen, our Head of School, who also served as our Athletic Director for many years, going above and beyond his daily duties to ensure that the athletics department ran smoothly and grew to become what it is today.

Thank you to our Athletic Director, Mrs. Maddie Deeter, our Special Events Coordinator, Mrs. Adalys Colianne, and our volunteers for putting together this event and for all you do to serve the athletics department here at Trinity Christian School!



Growing in Excellence and Faith

The Value of ACSI Accreditation



Rachel Woodford, Director of Education

At Trinity Christian School, we are committed not only to academic achievement but also to spiritual formation rooted in God's Word. That's why we are proud to have completed the accreditation process by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) - a distinction that reflects both excellence and faithfulness in Christian education.

What is ACSI Accreditation?

ACSI accreditation is a rigorous, voluntary process that Christian schools undergo to demonstrate their commitment to high standards - both academically and spiritually. It ensures that a school is not only providing quality education but is also integrating biblical truth into every aspect of its mission and curriculum. This accreditation is recognized globally and shows that a school is serious about continuous growth, accountability, and Christ-centered teaching.

Why Does It Matter?

Being ACSI accredited provides several benefits to our students, families, and community:

- **Spiritual Integration:** Accreditation confirms that biblical principles are intentionally woven into teaching, learning, leadership, and school culture.
- **Academic Excellence:** It ensures our school meets high educational standards, preparing students for success in higher education and life.
- **Professional Development:** Teachers and staff receive ongoing training and support, helping them grow spiritually and professionally.
- **Global Recognition:** Accreditation gives our students greater credibility when applying to universities and colleges, especially those that value character and faith.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Schools are regularly evaluated and encouraged to grow, adapt, and strengthen their programs in response to current needs.

What Is the Process?

The ACSI accreditation journey includes several key steps:

1. **Self-Study:** The school conducts an in-depth internal review of its mission, programs, and practices to assess strengths and areas for growth.
2. **Peer Review:** A team of educators from other Christian schools visits the campus to evaluate and confirm the school's alignment with ACSI's standards.
3. **Accreditation Decision:** Based on the review, ACSI grants

accreditation for a period (usually five years), with progress reports and updates in between.

4. **Ongoing Commitment:** The school continues to improve, submit updates, and prepare for future evaluations.

What did We Learn?

Here are Three Major Commendable Items:

1. The faculty and administration have fostered an environment where spiritual formation is flourishing.
2. Trinity Christian School places high value on the environment in which students are known and supported.
3. The school provides a safe, secure, well-maintained, and organized facilities to fulfill the school's mission.

Here are Three Recommended Action Items:

1. Continue to develop curriculum documentation that aligns with educational standards across grade levels.
2. Establish a systematic professional development program.
3. Develop an action plan to address current school needs.

What It Means for Our Community

ACSI accreditation is more than a badge of honor - it's a shared commitment to raising the next generation of students who are not only knowledgeable but also Christ-like in character. It challenges us to be intentional in everything we do, from the way we teach math and science to how we handle discipline and student leadership.

As we reach the end of the accreditation process and await the final approval from ACSI on June 5, 2025, we ask that you hold Trinity Christian School up in prayer.

How can you pray?

- Pray for favor on our school as we are reviewed by the ACSI Accreditation Commission.
- Pray for TCS leadership to have wisdom as we move to make improvements.
- Pray for the TCS School Board as they lead the school to fulfill its mission and vision.
- Pray for students, families and teachers to be drawn to Trinity Christian School.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Lexa Gianakopoulos, '13, has a bachelor's degree in social work from Texas Christian University and a master's degree from the University of Illinois. She currently works as a social worker at Waubonsie Valley High School. Lexa is currently the team leader for Young Life in Plainfield, having been called to help grow the ministry when she came back from college. In the last three years, the ministry has grown from 25 students to 120. Lexa continues to let her light shine in her community, and was recently featured in Plainfield Neighbors magazine, where she shared about her life and her ministry.



Joel Volpe, '20, just finished his first year at Olivet Nazarene University. He is studying for a double major in cyber security and criminal justice.

Luke Volpe, '21, recently graduated from Lincoln Way West High School, and is passionate about welding. He is in the process of applying for the Pipefitters' Local Union 597.

Both Volpe brothers have a heart for the Lord and for missions. They volunteer at their home church, Parker Road Bible Church, weekly. They are currently serving in Pucallpa, Peru, helping to renovate the Iglesia Centro Evangélico Misionero church, sharing the gospel in a small village off the Ucayali River, and ministering to the local people in Pucallpa.

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www.trinitychristian.info

SHARE YOUR STORY

Do you have 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, Marketing Director, at jhayward@trinitychristian.info.

Hope to hear from you soon!

Reflections on TCS from



Grace Albert

"I have been attending TCS for 2 years now and will attend Minooka High School next year. I have been blessed to have such a wonderful experience with the teachers, the students, and the overall experience at this school. Over the past two years at TCS, I have experienced significant growth, not only in my academics but also in my faith in God. During my time here, I've been able to deepen my spiritual understanding and build a closer relationship with God. The challenges and triumphs of these two years have strengthened my trust in God's plan for me, and I've come to understand the importance of having faith during both the highs and lows. One of my goals for the future is to become a patent lawyer and practice law later in my path of success and life."



Catherine Banahene

"Trinity Christian is an amazing school where you can learn many wonderful things, especially about the Word of God. I have grown in many ways during my time here, such as praying more often, getting good grades, and making a lot of friends. Trinity has made me less shy and more outgoing. I was even able to try new things, like volleyball, cheer, and musical. I have been spiritually impacted by the Wednesday chapels and Pastor Nick Dedetsinas's special 8th grade elective chapels. Both of them taught me things that I did not know about the Lord and I have grown in my faith with Jesus, as well. I will miss this school dearly, and I hope to make a change at Plainfield North High School."



Aubrey Campbell

"I have been attending TCS for three years. It has been an amazing journey and experience. TCS has taught me to shine my light of Jesus through everything I do. I have grown in my sports, academics and in my faith. I will be attending Joliet Catholic Academy next year where I hope to continue to grow in my faith and shine my light on other people."



Genevieve Choomchaiyo

"I have attended Trinity Christian School for 9 years. Throughout these years, I have learned how to show Jesus' love in everything that I do. Trinity's teachers have shown me love and comfort, and have taught me extremely well. I am nervous for high school, but I know that Jesus will be with me the entire time. I will be attending Plainfield South High School next year. My main goal in the upcoming years is to keep Christ in everything I do and say."



Ava Cole

"I have been attending Trinity for 11 years, since preschool. I have grown both academically and in my faith with God. God has used Trinity to bring me closer to him. I have learned that God is my safety in the storm and that I can always put my faith in Him. TCS has prepared me for classes in high school and has given me a lot of experience in sports. I will be attending Plainfield North High School and I hope to spread the word of God and have Christ in everything I do."



Sofia Cruz

"I have attended Trinity Christian School for 5 years. The most impactful thing Trinity has taught me is to slow down and let Christ unfold your future for you. Humans tend to possess a lot of ambition, and we make a habit of trying to rush things—like life itself—instead of having patience while we walk on the path God has made specifically for us. TCS has shown me many incredible life lessons, and has grown me so much when it comes to academics, sports, and my relationship with Jesus. I will forever cherish the people I have met here, the things I've been taught, and how this school has become like a second home to me. TCS has shaped me into the girl I currently am, and I will never forget my 5 years here as this school will always hold a special place in my heart. I will continue to let God guide me through life as I shine for Him at Joliet Catholic Academy. In the future, I aim to be successful in anything I do. I'd preferably like to give glory to Christ by studying criminal science, neurophysiology, or law—and starting a family after I work for some time."



Sydney Etolue

"I have been attending TCS for 7 years now. I came to Trinity in second grade and I have been here ever since. TCS has left a positive influence on me by introducing me to Christ and how to worship him. TCS, as a whole, has helped bring me closer to Christ than I have ever been. The teachers and the worship that I would participate in made my relationship with Christ stronger throughout the years. Trinity Christian School is a great community where God's love is shown and exemplified in every corner of the school. Attending TCS was a wonderful experience. I will be going to Plainfield North High School, and I hope to continue staying in God's Word consistently."



Nathan Fish

"I have been attending Trinity Christian School for 10 years, since preschool. I have grown a lot spiritually in my time at TCS. Students here have helped me realize that I was living a really sinful life, so they helped me change for the better and now I am striving to be more Christ-like. I will be attending Plainfield South High School next year. One of my goals for the future is to play basketball and football in high school."



Sara Freund

"I have attended Trinity Christian School for 9 years. I have grown physically, mentally and spiritually. Trinity has made me a nicer person and more like Jesus. I have learned that we are to be kind to everyone. This school has impacted me by encouraging me to read the Bible more and encouraging me to follow Jesus every day. I will be attending Illiana Christian High School in Dyer, Indiana. My goal is to become a business owner/CEO. If I became wealthy, I would pay my TCS teachers each 10k. God bless this school."



Sofia Freund

"I have attended TCS since kindergarten and have grown in so many different ways. TCS has taught me how to show God's love and live like Jesus. It has impacted me and taught me to be compassionate and thankful for what I have. I will be moving to Indiana and will attend Illiana Christian High School. One goal I have is to marry a nice young man and have a family of my own. Thank you for everything, TCS."



Claire Graham

"I have attended Trinity Christian School for 11 years, ever since preschool. I have grown in my faith and my relationships with others at Trinity. TCS has impacted my relationship with God by strengthening my walk with Christ. I will be attending Yorkville Christian High School in the fall and my goal is to grow further in my relationship with Christ and to be my best self."



Brianna Lake

"I came to Trinity Christian School half way through 7th grade. I have grown in my academics, friendships, and in my spiritual growth with God. Trinity has given me many opportunities to learn more about God. I will be attending Lockport Township High School where I hope to continue my faith journey with God and take the lessons that Trinity has taught me to set myself up for success in the future."



Charley Lechelt

"I have attended Trinity Christian School for 2 years. In those 2 years, I have learned that God will never leave you during the tough times. I have grown spiritually by learning more about God every single day. This school has welcomed me and always feels like a second home. I will be attending Minooka Community High School next year. In the future, I want to become a better leader for Christ and shine His light and love for others."

The Class of 2025



Morgan Nickerson

"I have been attending Trinity Christian School since 1st grade. I have grown tremendously in my faith with God. I also hope to grow more in my faith throughout high school. I have grown academically and I feel prepared for high school because I have learned so much from being here at TCS. I will be attending Plainfield North High School. In my future, I hope to be a light for Jesus by helping in the hospitals as a surgeon one day."



Kellyn Mongelli

"I have attended Trinity Christian School for 11 years. Since Pre-K, I have learned to show love, compassion, and kindness to those around me. The teachers have helped me grow in my faith and academics. TCS has prepared me to go out and spread the Gospel to everyone. I will be attending Joliet West High School next year. I hope to impact the new friends I meet and become a true leader by following Jesus."



Ashley Pilon

"In my 11 years attending TCS, Trinity has become like a second home to me. Being here has helped me to grow in my academics, friendships, as well as in my faith. Trinity has provided me with many memories and examples that have greatly impacted my life. I'm so thankful I received the opportunity to strengthen and grow in so many areas of my life at TCS. Next year, as I attend Minooka Community High School, I hope to show the same love to others there as was shown to me at Trinity."



Krista Osborne

"I joined Trinity Christian School this year. Trinity has helped me grow in my friendships and my relationship with the Lord. Trinity has taught me so much, not just in my education, but in my spiritual knowledge. Trinity has helped me grow closer to the Lord with the variety of pastors that speak here at this school. I am excited to continue my spiritual journey at Minooka Community High School. My goal is to get a college degree in business and share Jesus's message to others."



Nathaniel Smith

"I have been going to TCS for 3 years, starting in 6th grade. I have grown in many ways here but especially with my faith in Jesus. Along the way, I have made many friendships and the teachers here have impacted me so much. I will be going to Minooka Community High School or Timothy Christian High School. After that, I want to play basketball in college and study mathematics and business and give glory to God no matter what I do."



Joaquin Rodriguez

"I have been here at TCS since 6th grade. I have grown in maturity and my faith in God. Trinity has been a blessing to me because I have met so many great teachers and friends that really impacted my life. I am going to attend Yorkville Christian High School next year. My goals for the future are to get good grades and get back to playing baseball because I want to play in the MLB for the Chicago White Sox when I get older."



Lily Tuttle

"I have been attending Trinity Christian school since kindergarten (9 years). TCS has helped me shape my character and spiritual development. TCS has equipped me with the skills and values needed to pass through life's challenges with fairness. Within those 9 years, I have grown closer to God by learning about the Bible. I will be attending Plainfield North High School next year and my goal is to finish high school and to go to a prestigious college, with God's guidance."



Brooklyn Steffen

"I have been going to Trinity Christian School for 4 years now. TCS has helped me grow in my academics and in my faith journey with God. Last year's Bible teacher, Mr. C, helped bring me closer to God and impacted me through the Bible. I have learned a lot at Trinity throughout the years I have attended. I know I can trust everyone to help me when I am struggling in my faith journey and my academics. I love TCS and am going to miss this school so much. Next year, I will be attending Joliet West High School."



Jesse Vercler

"I have been at TCS for 2 years since 7th grade. I have grown in my relationship with Jesus here and it has been a great experience. Trinity is a school with a very personalized experience that adapts to every child. I appreciate the friendly environment that is like a second home. I have had many great memories at TCS. I will be attending Minooka Community High School next year. Trinity has given me a very valuable head start to high school."



Mark Vasecka

"I have been going to Trinity Christian School for 11 years now. I have grown so much in my faith with Jesus Christ from the help of many teachers and friends. Trinity has done so much for me and I am so glad that I've been here for so long. I've grown not only in my academics, but also spiritually in my walk with Jesus Christ. I am attending Joliet Catholic Academy next year and I'm so excited for a brand-new start and a new experience. I will also remember Trinity Christian School forever."



Jacob Vertin

"I have attended TCS since 4th grade. Trinity has helped me grow into the person I am today. Trinity is the place that taught me about God and how to live in a Christ-like way. The teachers here at Trinity have always pushed me to be better, and I appreciate that. Next year I will be attending Minooka Community High School. My hope in life is to continue on the path that leads to life and to lead others along the way. I also am striving to play soccer in high school and college."



Daisy Verhulst

"I have been attending TCS for two years. During my time at Trinity, I have learned the true meaning of my Christian faith and have greatly grown in my relationship with God. Next year, I will be attending Lincoln-Way West High School. My goal in high school is to continue glorifying God in every way I can, and showing his light to others. Although I have been at TCS a short time, it will always hold a special place in my heart as I continue into my next stages in high school."



Addison Zilvitis

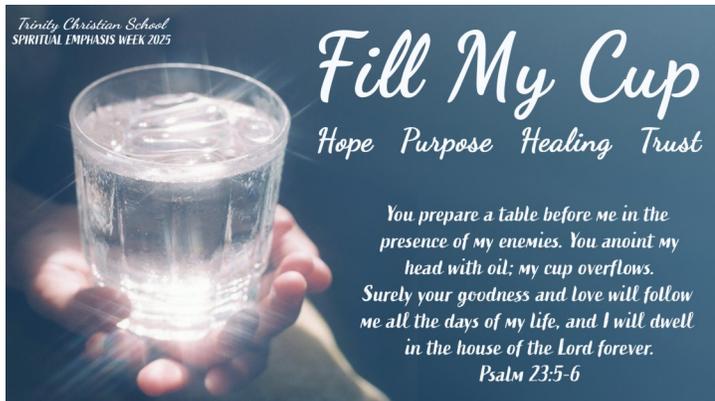
"I have attended Trinity Christian School since November of my 6th grade year. When I first came to this school I felt so welcomed. TCS makes me feel like I belong. I have grown so much in my faith the past years and TCS has been a huge part of it. Next year, I will be attending Minooka Community High School where I hope to start my journey to become a nurse. Trinity has had a huge impact in my life and I will never forget this amazing school!"



Cayden Vugteveen

"I have been attending TCS for 10 years. I have been here since preschool and have enjoyed the teachers every second I have been here. I have been spiritually moved and impacted by all the teachers and how they lead us towards Jesus Christ. I will be attending Yorkville Christian High School. My plans are to go out for a baseball career and try to get into a D3 or D2 college."

Spiritual Emphasis Week



Each year, we designate a week to focus on a specific spiritual topic and engage in service projects in our community and globally. This year, our theme was “Fill My Cup,” with Psalm 23:5-6 as our theme verse. In our four chapel times throughout the week, guest pastors from Victory City Church in Joliet spoke to our students about seeking God to fill our cups with hope, purpose, healing, and trust.

We were also blessed to have the Schweinberg family lead our students in live worship all week. It was very encouraging to the staff and teachers to hear them lifting their voices all week long in praise and worship!

On the Wednesday of Spiritual Emphasis Week, each grade level engages in service projects that bless our local community here in Shorewood and ministries around the world. This year, our kindergarten through second graders collected and prayed over donations of toys for a local toy drive. Third grade classes raised money to send Bibles to those in need around the world. Fourth grade collected school supplies for an orphanage in Africa, then went to the pond across the street to pick up trash. Our fifth through eighth grade students went to Feed My Starving Children and packed meals that will be distributed around the world.



Each chapel from Spiritual Emphasis Week is available to watch on our YouTube channel: Trinity Christian School. Scan the QR code to check out our chapel playlist!



Empowered to Make a Difference

At the Benefit Event in March, I had the opportunity to join in honoring Drs. Fred and Beth Alexander.

Their dedication, obedience and commitment to the ministry of Trinity Christian School is inspiring.

The plaque that they were given to commemorate their ministry here at TCS beautifully illustrated the direct impact they have had on thousands of children and their families through academic excellence and the love of Christ.

In the Bible, the Book of Luke was written by Luke. We probably all knew that. What we may not know, was that Luke was supported financially by Theophilus. Theophilus' impact by partnering with God in what God was doing through Luke is too great for comprehension.

I recently gave a tour to a family who is considering transferring their youngest daughter to TCS. Their oldest daughter is a freshman at Minooka High School, and when she found out that her parents are considering an educational change for her sister, she told her parents to look at Trinity Christian School because the kids that went to Trinity at Minooka are "the best."

That kind of impact doesn't fit on a plaque; that is God-sized impact.

God is using Trinity Christian School to impact our high schools, our community, and even our world.

Each one of us has the opportunity to partner with God in what he is doing through Trinity Christian School. We get to be Theophilus. And just like his impact was eternal, ours can be too.

Please consider saying yes to partnering with God today.

We have students in need of financial assistance to attend or return to TCS in the fall. We have building maintenance needs. We have academic and extracurricular programs that would benefit from additional financial support.

Whatever area the Lord lays on your heart to give, know that he multiplies, your impact is great, and you will be blessed in knowing that the Lord chose you to carry out his kingdom work.

Deanne Bekermeier,
Director of Development



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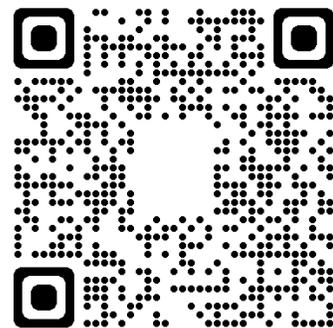
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1. Visit <https://www.trinitychristian.info/about/ways-to-give.cfm> or scan the QR code below.
2. You can give a one-time gift or set up recurring giving for an amount of your choosing.
3. You can choose to give toward our Annual Fund, Scholarships,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

Honoring the

For their faithfulness to the Lord and to

It was early 1992, and the Lord was stirring something in the hearts of the Alexanders. “I was expressing concern that I had about the school that our oldest was attending,” recalled Dr. Beth Alexander in a video for Trinity’s 20 year anniversary. “And I was just sharing a problem, and like a good husband wants to do, he wants to bring a solution,” she said, referring to her husband, Dr. Fred Alexander. After hearing his wife’s concerns, Fred said, “Well, how about if we start a school?”

Soon after, a group of like-minded parents gathered together to cast vision for a private, Christian school in the Joliet and Shorewood area.

“The idea would be for a school that would support the values that individuals were learning both at home and at their church,” recalled Fred, “and have that supported by what was taught at school.”

When they found that there was a definite interest in such a school, they were quick to get it running. Just a year later, in the fall of 1993, Joliet Christian School opened its doors to 57 students.

The early days of the school were not without their challenges.

“We started out in Shorewood Church of God,” recalled Fred. “Right before we started there was a flood there. We moved after about a year to Grace [Bible Church], there was a flood there.”



The Joliet Christian School Board



Front row: Mr. Jim Dzak, Mr. Carl Carlson, Mrs. Madonna Kenser, Mrs. Kathy Sharp, Mr. Al Harris. 2nd row: Mr. Rick Tollefson, Pastor Dave O’Deil, Dr. Fred Alexander, Pastor Eric Livingston, Mr. Gary Russell, Mr. Henry Piliard. Not pictured are: Mr. Rich Overall, Dr. Beth Alexander, Miss Sherry Lindstrom, and Mrs. Kim Baker.



In spite of the challenges, the school continued to grow. Fred served as president of the school board, while Beth taught music classes at the school and even served as the school administrator for a brief time.

After serving faithfully for over thirty years, Fred stepped down from the school board at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. Now, he and Beth have more time to spend with their children, all alumni of Trinity, and their grandchildren.

“Together, Fred and Beth have not only a legacy of leadership, but also a wonderful family,” said Mr. Jon Vugteveen, Head of School, at our 2025 Benefit Event, where the Alexanders were the guests of honor.

“Your legacy is not just in the policies you helped shape or the meetings you’ve attended, but the lives of the students who have walked through these hall,” Vugteveen told them.

As part of honoring the Alexanders, they were presented with a framed image of the school, made up of photos of every student who has been through Trinity Christian School since it opened, representing the lives touched through the Alexanders’s selfless service.

A plaque inside the frame contains a scripture that accurately embodies their dedication to the work the Lord set before them.

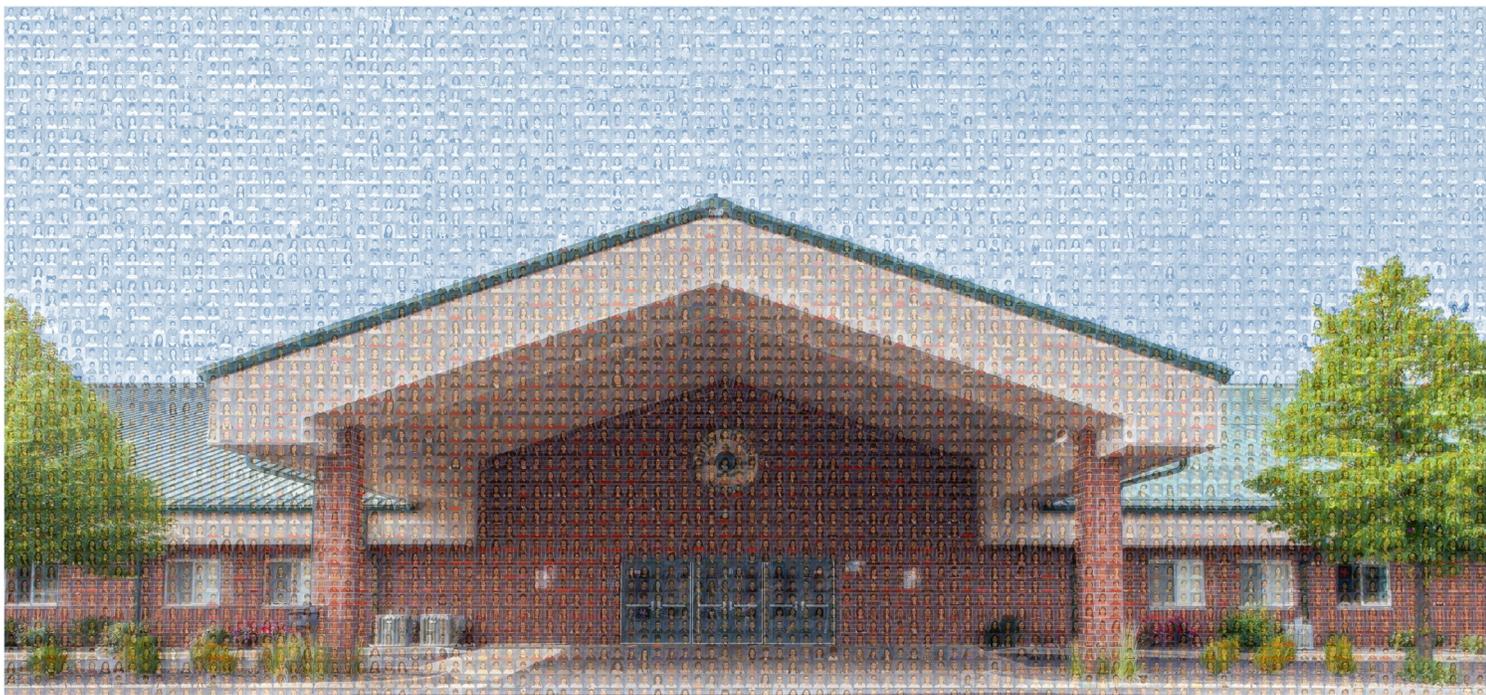
Alexanders

Trinity for the past thirty three years.

1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

"From that steering committee in 1992 to opening in '93, the Lord has provided in ways that only he could orchestrate," said Fred after receiving the gift. "You want to be a part of something that is so important that it makes an eternal difference, and without the Lord doing it, it's going to be all for naught."

Thank you, Drs. Fred and Beth Alexander, for your faithfulness to the Lord these last thirty three years!



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

MATH COMPETITION

Each year we send a group of middle school students to compete in Joliet West High School's Mu Alpha Theta Mid High Math Competition in March. This year, our students placed first overall, with some of the highest scores seen in recent years! In addition to first place overall, the team also received first place awards in the following categories: 8th grade Literal Equations, 8th grade Linear Inequalities, 7th grade Sigma, and 7th grade Square Roots. Way to go Trinity students!

Back Row from left to right: Aubrey C., Jesse V., Edison E., Carolyn P., Ava C., Jacob V., Nathaniel S., Genevieve C., Lily T., Catherine B., Charley L.

Front row from left to right: Graham N., Leonardo E., Ian M., Kellyn M., Cayden V., Natalie D., Ashley P., Skylar D., Krista O., Morgan N.



ROBOTICS

This year in our LEGO Spike Prime and Essentials robotics groups, we offered a fun and educational program that introduced students to the exciting world of robotics and engineering, using LEGO bricks. They got the opportunity to build, program, and test their own LEGO robots. They also learned about different robotic components, such as sensors, motors, and gears, and how to use them to make their robots move, react, and perform tasks.

One of the key aspects of the group is the emphasis on teamwork. Children often work in pairs or small teams to complete their projects, which encourages them to collaborate, share ideas, and solve problems together.

The 4th - 8th grade groups also participated in LEGO robotics competitions, where they got the chance to showcase their creations and compete against other teams.



SPELLING BEE

5th through 8th grade students participate in a spelling bee in the spring. Our students faced down some tough words and kept the competition going so long that we had to come back a second day! Great job to all students involved and congratulations to our winners!

5th Grade: 1st Place, Grace M.; 2nd Place, Chase G.; 3rd Place, Helena N.; 4th Place, Elijah S.

6th Grade: 1st Place, A'mia B.; 2nd Place, Corinne B.; 3rd Place, Nikolai D.; 4th Place, Mia P.

7th Grade: 1st Place, Graham N.; 2nd Place, Edison E.; 3rd Place, Leonardo E.; 4th Place, Nathan V.

8th Grade: 1st Place, Kellyn M.; 2nd Place, Genevieve C.; 3rd Place, Ava C.; 4th Place, Lily T.



TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS:

Disney THE LITTLE MERMAID JR



Trinity Christian School performed Disney's "The Little Mermaid Jr." in early May. The students did an amazing job bringing this fun and colorful show to life!

Thank you to our director, Mrs. Holton, assistant director, Mr. O'Brien, and choreographer, Miss Bekermeier, for your time and commitment to guiding these students in letting their talents shine for Christ!



Summer Camps & Enrichment 2025

Summer Camp registration is now open!

*Check out all of the fun athletic and
academic camps at*

www.trinitychristian.info

or scan the code below!

