

September 2025

The New Trinity Times

Ace Back to School!

Find A+ tips on page 9

Guess Who's Coming to Trinity?

Get the scoop on page 10

A Visit Down Under...

Read about it on page 6

**KEY
DATES**
page 12
**FUN &
GAMES**
page 11

165th Anniversary

Trinity Lutheran Church and School Trivia

by Josh Camiola, Addison Meredith, Jacob Garcia, and Addison Mann

Trinity Lutheran School is celebrating its 165th year of being awesome! 165 years is a lot, and there has been a lot of history through those years. Through the ups and downs Trinity has stayed strong, even through the traffic problems. Did you know, Trinity moms are the reason there is a stoplight at the intersection of Roosevelt and Westmore-Meyers Roads? I'm sure you didn't. Do you think you will get these questions?

1. What year did Trinity's girls' volleyball team win the state championship?
2. What year was the school built?
3. How many farm families founded Trinity Lutheran School?
4. What came first, the church or school?
5. What eye-catching monument do people in cars see when they drive by Trinity on Roosevelt Road?
6. Back in the day, Trinity had a baseball field. Do you know what crazy rule they had when it snowed?
7. How many rooms did the original schoolhouse have?
8. What years were new buildings added to the school?



9/11 SEPTEMBER *****
PATRIOT DAY
United States of America
NEVER FORGET

P.S. After a bad accident, those Trinity moms blockaded the intersection with strollers until the county agreed to install traffic controls!

**Find the answers to these
trivia questions on page 4.**

The New Trinity Times is written by Trinity Lutheran School's 2025-2026 Journalism class. Staff reporters Abby Pilny, Addison Mann, Addison Meredith, Alice Hensley, Arian Gomez, Ariana Mehrazar, Aubrey Miranda, Ava Harrison, Bobby Hawn, Damian Gomez, Floyd Turner, Gunnarr Tully, Heidi Johnson, Jacob Garcia, Joshua Camiola, Juliana Rivera, and Keira Hager, are supervised by Trinity's Journalism instructor, Mrs. Lori Solyom.

Trinity  Lutheran
Church & School



See stories on page 5



Meet Trinity's New Teachers

Meet Mrs. Curelo

by Jacob Garcia, Addison Meredith, Alice Hensley, and Addison Mann

Mrs. Elise Curelo teaches 5th and 6th grade at Trinity.

Q: What is your favorite movie or show? A: The Sound of Music.

Q: What is your favorite season? A: Summer.



Q: What is your favorite Bible verse? A: Matthew 28:5-6, "But the angel said to the women do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified; He is not here for He has risen as He said."

Q: What is your favorite football team? A: Chicago Bears!

Q: What high school did you go to?
A: Walther Lutheran High School.

continued on page 3

Meet Miss Mainz

by Juliana Rivera, Abby Pilny, and Heidi Johnson

Miss Hannah Mainz teaches Kindergarten at Trinity.

Q: What is your favorite color? A: Blue, green, and purple.

Q: What is your favorite recipe? A: Chicken gnocchi spinach soup.

Q: Do you like teaching kindergarten? A: Yes.

Q: How many states have you been to? A: 46.

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse? A: "The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight." Proverbs 4:7.

Q: Favorite TV show or movie? A: Lilo and Stich.

Q: Favorite song artist and song? A: Bon Jovi,
Starting All Over Again.

Q: Do you have a favorite book of the Bible?
If so, why? A: First book of John because it talks about how there is a seat for us in heaven.

Q: What is your favorite vacation spot? A: Nature.

Q: What is your favorite book? A: **Wonder** by R.J Palacio.

Q: What's one skill you have that makes you unique? A: My drawing.

Q: Coffee or tea? A: Coffee.



Meet Trinity's New Teachers

Meet Mrs. Curelo

continued from page 2

Q: What is your favorite color? A: Kelly Green.

Q: What is your favorite animal? A: Horse.

Q: What have you enjoyed most so far about teaching at Trinity?

A: The students.

Q: What is your favorite subject to teach? A: Religion.

Q: Tell us a fun fact about yourself? A: Boys outnumber the girls in my family two to one.

Q: What are your hobbies? A: Gardening and reading.

Q: What is your favorite board game? A: Awkward family photos.

Q: What is your dream vacation? A: To go back to Hawaii with Mr. Curelo.

Q: What is your favorite book? A: **A Painted House** by John Grisham.

Q: What college did you go to? A: Concordia University.



Meet Mrs. Hensley

by Bobby Hawn

Mrs. Liz Hensley is a preschool aide at Trinity.

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: My favorite color is yellow. The color yellow is a happy color for me.

Q: What is your favorite food? A: My favorite food is pizza.

Q: What is your dream vacation? A: My dream vacation is going to Italy to enjoy all the cuisine.

Q: What is your favorite school subject? A: My favorite subject is history.

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse? A: My favorite Bible verse is, Philippians 4:6-7 "Don't worry about anything, instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done."

Q: Do you have a favorite movie? A: One of my favorite movies is **A Charlie Brown Christmas**.

Q: What weather do you like best? A: I like it when the weather is a little colder. I love the snow.

Q: What do you enjoy in your free time? A: I like to be outside in my free time.

Q: What is your favorite word? A: My favorite word is love.

Q: What is your favorite thing about working with preschoolers? A: What I like best about working with the preschoolers is to see how proud they are when they learn something new. I also really like when Miss Kraegel tells them how much Jesus loves them - seeing their smiles.

Q: What is your favorite drink? A: My favorite drink is my morning coffee.

Here are the answers to...

165th Anniversary Trinity Lutheran Church and School Trivia

1. Trinity Lutheran School's Girls' Volleyball Chargers won the Lutheran Sports Association Illinois State Championship in **2000**.
2. Trinity Lutheran School was built and opened in **1860**.
3. **Twelve** farm families founded Trinity Lutheran School. The land was from their farms and some of the nearby streets still bear the names of those families.
4. **Trinity Lutheran School** came first in 1860. Eight years later, in 1868, Trinity Lutheran Church was founded.
5. When drivers pass by Trinity on Roosevelt Road, they see the **church steeple**.
6. Trinity's old time snow rule was that **snowball fights were only allowed ON the baseball field!**
7. The original Trinity schoolhouse had only **one** classroom.
8. New buildings were added to the school in **1946 and 1975**. Also, two preschool rooms and the office corridor were added to the main building in 1988.



Coming Up: Columbus Day

by Floyd Turner

Columbus Day is observed on October 13, 2025. The day was first celebrated in 1792 in New York to mark the 300th anniversary of Columbus's landing in the Americas. It became a federal holiday in the United States in 1937.

Christopher Columbus was born in 1451 and died in 1506. He was born in Italy, and despite wide belief that he was Italian, he was possibly ethnically Spanish and Jewish. Columbus was a devoted Christian whose haste to spread the Gospel spurred his travels across the ocean to the yet undiscovered New World.

Columbus made four voyages in his time, first venturing to the Americas at the age of 41. His strict administration of government in the New World led to his arrest. He was sent to Spain for trial and eventually acquitted.

His ships travelled approximately 150 miles a day. His first voyage of 3,000 miles took 50 days to reach the Americas from Europe.



History of Constitution Day

by Ariana Mehrazar, Aubrey Miranda, Keira Hager, and Gunnarr Tully



Constitution Day [September 17] is the celebration of the United States Constitution which was established as a national observance in 2004 by Senator Robert Byrd to increase public knowledge about the document.

The Constitution was created to replace the Articles of Confederation and amend its weaknesses. The government, under the articles, couldn't control commerce or effectively raise revenue, which pointed the states toward economic disaster. There was also a need for a stronger Union.

The United States Constitution was signed by the delegates on September 17, 1787, at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Prominent figures among the signers included George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison. Not all delegates signed; some refused to sign the Constitution as originally drafted.

The Constitution of the United States of America is our supreme law. (In other words, it is our most important regulation). The Constitution institutes the three branches of the government, what makes up our government, and what all our state laws are founded on.

The Constitution was written on paper with ink - the paper was made from wood fibers and used paper pounded into a pulp, then set in water to form a solid mat from which the water is pressed out and then heated to set.

The Constitution is a very important part of history. What do you know about it? Learn more at <https://constitutioncenter.org/>.

"This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding."

Why the First Amendment Is Important to Christians *by Addison Meredith*

The First Amendment states that "congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." Christianity is a religion, and the First Amendment gives us the freedom of religion, but what exactly does this mean? Well, without the First Amendment, Congress could say, "you can't practice religion, or you'll be put to death." Because of the First Amendment, you're able to practice whatever religion you want, whether that is Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, or any other belief. As Christians we are free to be Christians, and Congress can't tell us otherwise.



Not only are we free to practice the religion we choose, we are free to talk about it. Under our First Amendment right, our freedom of speech is protected. We can go out and spread the Gospel to others. Other religions can do the same, and Congress cannot prohibit us from doing so.

Addison Mann Goes Down Under: A Summer Adventure in Australia

by Jacob Garcia and Addison Meredith

One of Trinity's students, Addison Mann, went on a trip over summer break to Australia. During this vacation Addison took a 15-hour flight to get there! She also climbed the Sydney bridge, went to Sydney Zoo where she held a koala, and went scuba diving at the Great Barrier Reef.

Q: What part of Australia did you go to? **A: Sydney.**

Q: Did you ride any animals? **A: No.**

Q: What was the biggest cultural shock you experienced as an American going to Australia?

A: They called their car trunks, "boots."

Q: What type of food did you eat? **A: Croissants.**

Q: What wildlife did you see? **A: Kangaroos.**

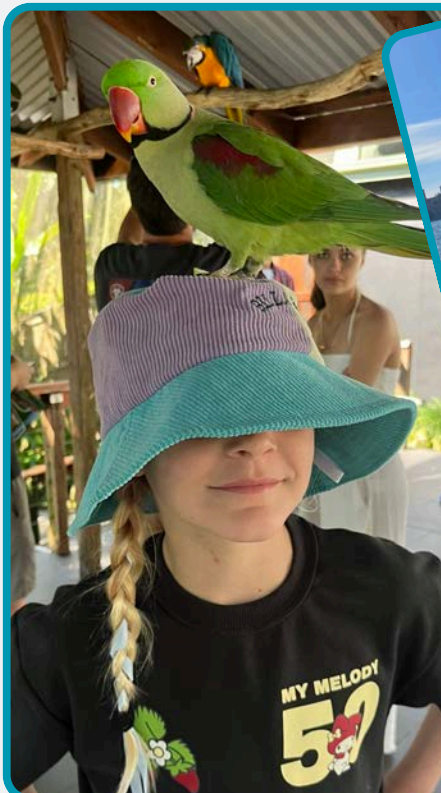
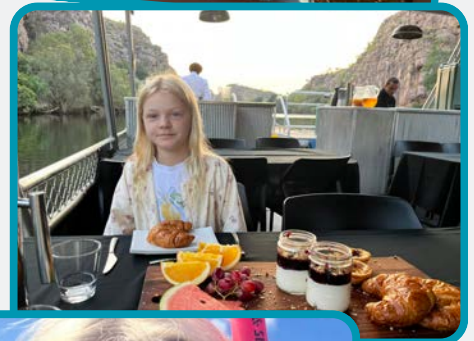
Q: Did you go scuba diving, or to any beaches? **A: Scuba diving in the Great Barrier Reef.**

Q: What did you learn? **A: Koalas are not mean.**

Q: How long were you there for? **A: Three weeks.**

Q: Were you visiting any family? **A: No.**

Q: What was your favorite part of your vacation?
A: When I got in a fight with a kangaroo.



Trinity's State Championship 2000 Volleyball Team

by Ava Harrison

Trinity Lutheran School's Chargers girls' volleyball team won the Lutherans Sports Association Illinois state championship 25 years ago. The girls have all grown up to have jobs and/or families, but it's great to remember their athletic success at Trinity.

The State Championship team included...

8th graders: Jessica Eggert, Jessica Gangler, Allison Hadley, Kelly Kuntze, Lauren Ottley, and Heidi Schmidt.

7th graders: Katrina Giammarino, Ginger Jacob, Amy Schacht, and Brittni Westergren.

6th graders: Heidi Jacob, Alicia Kane, Kristen Miltz, and Ashley Solyom.

5th graders: Stacie Bower, Kristi Eggert, Brittany Giammarino, Gina Gonzalez, Meaghan Kuntze, Nicole Mallas, Rebekah Schroeder, and Dana Steben.

Coaches: Mrs. Sue Bower and Mrs. Linda Eggert.



Jessica Eggert and Allison Hadley, both 8th graders, were named to the All-Tournament team.

The Lutheran Sports Association of Illinois began in 1975, but girls' volleyball was added 12 years later, in 1988. Trinity's teams (girls' and boys') went to state multiple times in the late 1990s to early 2000s.

Mr. B pointed out that winning a state championship for a school like Trinity is significant, especially when it involves beating schools with two or three times more students and larger teams.

Mrs. Curelo played volleyball on a school team at St. Paul Lutheran School in Brookfield when she was younger, and for her the most exciting thing about it was participating in the annual Walther tournament.

There is no doubt that tournaments are fun and challenging. Mrs. Solyom was at that 2000 State Championship game because she had a daughter on the team. She described it as, "Exhilarating!"



TSLombard.org

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHARGERS?

by Bobby Hawm

We all know about Trinity Lutheran School and its mascot, which is a horse called a Charger. Now your first question about this mascot is probably, "what is a charger?" It is a horse, obviously. We see it on our spirit wear, and we all know that is what our Trinity teams are called, the Chargers, but why was a Charger chosen as the mascot for Trinity Lutheran School of Lombard - sometime prior to the 1980s? Let's find out.

A charger is not just any horse. It is a horse built for speed, endurance, and agility - which makes it a good representative for Trinity's track and cross country teams. Chargers are also carefully trained for battle, parades, and ceremonial rides - great inspirations for Trinity's volleyball team, which is also trained for battle (on the volleyball court). Chargers were prized for their ability to charge into the midst of chaos and in doing so, they carved their legacy into history. These horses are symbols of strength and determination. Over the centuries, chargers became legends, tales of their daring dashes into battle captivated storytellers and historians alike. As for the knights that rode these war horses, they also became known as chargers. The term "charger" originated when medieval knights on their steeds charged into battle - just like our volleyball team when they charge the net to send a ball bouncing across the court and hope the "enemies" don't hit it back. We see the Trinity Chargers name and logo on banners and uniforms in yearbook photos back as far as 1980 but presume Trinity's athletic teams have always been known as the Chargers, and now we have a pretty good idea why.

TRINITY CHARGERS CROSS COUNTRY

by Addison Mann and Addison Meredith



This year, Trinity is lucky enough to participate in cross country, competing in meets hosted by Walther Christian Academy, Willowbrook High School, St. John's Lutheran School, and others. The Chargers' first meet of the season was on Saturday, September 6, hosted by St. John's in Lombard. A few Trinity team members placed in the competition: Heidi Johnson placed 30th in the field, Addison Mann came in 20th, and one of the newest Charger runners, Keira Hager, placed in the top ten! The team is looking forward to more amazing meets coming this season. These athletes have been practicing hard and are ready for whatever race comes their way.

see photos on page 12

GO CHARGERS!

"OUR" ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME VIP

by Bobby Hawn

In October 2024, Walther held its first Athletic Hall of Fame induction for the first time in the last 26 years! And they plan to keep it as an annual event, so congratulations to the Hall of Fame induction Class of 2025!

Some of the people and teams that are being inducted into Walther's Hall of Fame include the 1969 and 1970 football teams (the school's first undefeated teams), Jenna Richardson - Class of 2006 tennis, David Tuomi - Class of 2009 wrestling, and our very own Floyd Turner - Class of 2003 track and field.

Just kidding (kind of)! The Floyd Turner of Walther's track and field fame is Trinity 5th grade student Floyd Turner's dad!

The ceremony will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 4, prior to Walther's homecoming football game, preceded by a celebration brunch.

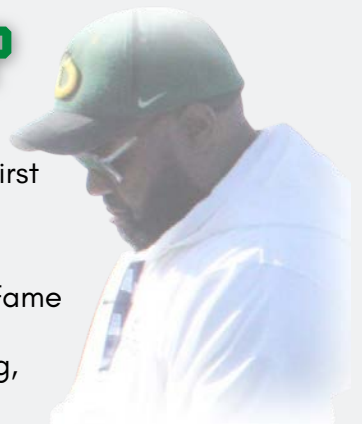
Floyd, the Trinity student, answered a few questions about his father:

- Q: What track and field events did your dad take part in? A: Shot put, hammer, discus, and javelin
Q: What is your dad doing now? A: He is coaching shot put, discus, hammer, and javelin - the same events he competed in for track and field.
Q: Does your dad still compete in track and field? A: No, he does not.

However, Mr. Turner IS a championship-winning college track and field coach, who while in college won four consecutive National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics championship discus titles (2004-2007). At Walther Lutheran High School, Mr. Turner was the 2003 Illinois High School Association Class A state title holder in both the discus and shot put.



WALTHER
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



Ready for School by Keira Hager

It is very important and helpful to be prepared for school. Otherwise, you may forget something, and/or be a complete mess when you arrive. It can also be very nerve wracking to get everything together at the last minute. I know how this feels, and you probably do too. This is why I have put together a list of things to do when you're getting ready. That way, you, and other people, will be ready for school the next day.



The night prior to the first day of school for the week, is when you should be preparing the most. You could start by packing your lunch and backpack, filling your water bottle, laying your clothes out, picking your shoes for school, and setting an early bedtime for every day.

- When packing your lunch, it is best to pack healthy food.
- As you're packing your lunchbox, fill your water bottle as well. That way you stay hydrated at school.
- When you're laying out your clothes, and picking your shoes, it is best to pick both based on the weather, and what is going on that day.
- Before bed, discuss with your parents when it would be a good and early time to go to sleep.

After all your items for school are packed, double check to see if you have everything. Last, make sure to put all of the things you plan to bring to school somewhere where you can see them easily the next morning.

In the morning when you wake up, make sure to prepare yourself for school. Get your clothes on and fix your hair. It is important to brush your hair, or comb it, because that way you'll feel neat and tidy.

Next, you should eat a good breakfast. It could consist of cereal, fruits and vegetables, toast, eggs, and meats. After eating, you should wash your face and brush your teeth, so it wakes you up, and you feel clean. Some people even prefer to take a shower at this point. When you are done with everything you need to do, you can put on your shoes and grab your supplies packed the night before. Once everything is ready you can head to school.

The feeling of being done preparing for school, and arriving early or on time, is very rewarding. Once you realize that you can get ready for school quickly, and be there early, then you will grow more confident about preparing yourself. If you are having a hard time swiftly getting ready, and you're getting rushed often, then you could try going to bed early and waking up earlier. You could set an alarm before you go to bed so that you wake up early enough to prepare for school. If that doesn't work you could ask a parent, teacher, or older sibling for help. If they give you good advice, you should use it.

Preparing for school is just as important as being at school. When you are done preparing for school you will feel so relieved. Once you get the hang of getting ready for school, then almost every other day will be just as easy. I hope that my list of things to do before school was helpful and helps you get ready for school faster. May the Lord bless your school year at Trinity.

Tips for a Healthy School Lunch

by Heidi Johnson

Your lunch should always have a side of fruit or vegetable. If you rush to get your lunch packed in the morning, start packing your lunch the night before so you can have time to make smart choices. For your main course, a healthy option could be sandwich on whole grain bread - peanut butter (or almond butter) with jelly - or honey. Try a bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwich or pack leftovers from dinner. Both are better choices than a lunch full of snacks. You don't want too many sweets in your lunch! Having one or two pieces of candy or a cookie for a dessert isn't too bad, but otherwise, you want a healthy, nutrition-packed school lunch every day!



Timothy Botts

by Ariana Mehrazar and Aubrey Miranda

Timothy Botts is an artist who has a focus on calligraphy. He was born in Pennsylvania and currently resides in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. He is well known for his transformation of Bible verses into pieces of art.



Tim Botts is a master calligrapher who studied graphic design and calligraphy at Carnegie-Mellon University. He and his wife Nancy spent three years in Japan teaching conversational English where, after graduation, he was introduced to the rich brush writing tradition of the East.



Later, Tim started a forty-year career at Tyndale House Publishers designing books and Bibles and retired as senior art director in 2012. He also teaches calligraphy part time at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Illinois and has taught numerous workshops throughout the United States and internationally.

Tim's work is part of the permanent collection of the Newberry Library in Chicago. Ten books of his work have been published, including *Doorposts*, *Messiah*, *The Botts Illustrated Bible*, and *Bound for Glory*.

Tim says of his own work, "I aim to make the words look like what they mean, always trying to strike a balance between legibility and expression. Making these word pictures is, for me as a visual person, the strongest way to reflect on God's Word. To share them with others is an additional joy."

His work is a part of the permanent collection of the Newberry Library in Chicago. Ten books of his work have been published, which include **Doorposts**, **Messiah**, **The Botts Illustrated Bible**, and **Bound for Glory**.

In speaking about faith and the art of calligraphy, the internationally acclaimed artist has said, "Calligraphy has had an important and significant role in preserving and celebrating the Bible and can convey truth in deep and profound ways." He also finds connection between how God shows Himself in Jesus and how we can visualize spiritual wisdom through word pictures.

JOE BOWAY'S COMING: WHAT TO EXPECT

by Abby Pilny, Juliana Rivera, Heidi Johnson, and Floyd Turner

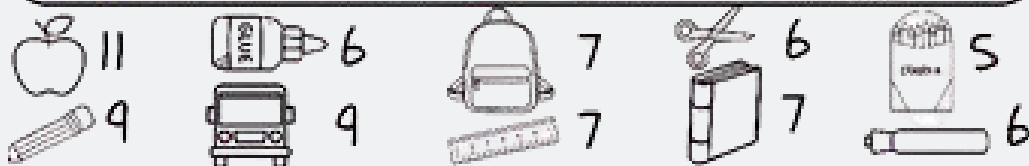
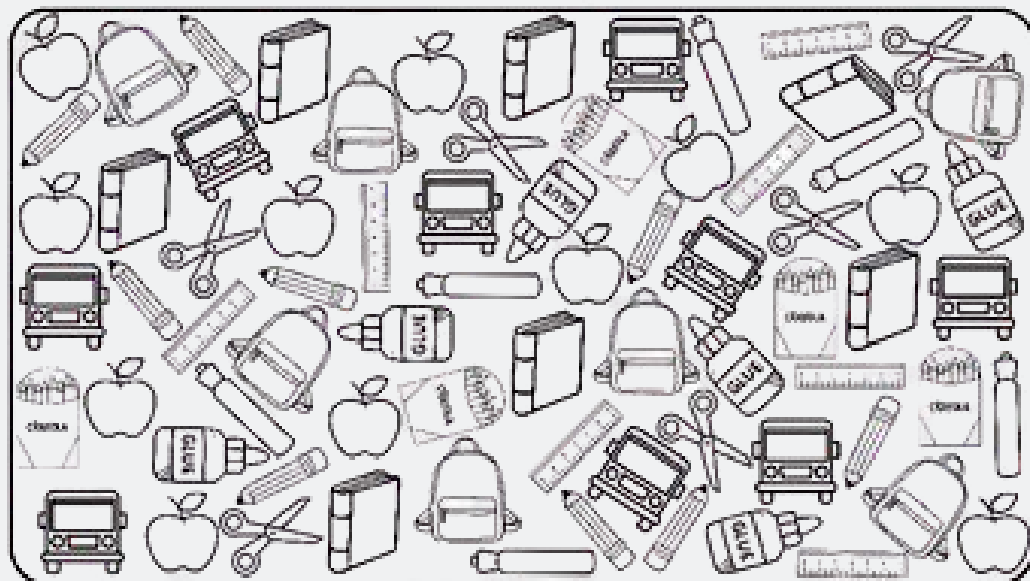
Every year at Trinity, missionary Joe Boway comes and preaches during chapel. He is coming back in two weeks - on TUESDAY, September 30! Joe teaches us about some of the things he has done in God's service, which is really cool. Joe lives in a small country in Africa called Liberia, where many families have almost nothing. He has started 15 Lutheran schools, where more than 6,500 Liberian children learn about Jesus. These students cannot just go to the store to get school supplies. So, that's why we are helping by collecting and donating school supplies, which Joe will ship to Liberia for these students. We are excited for Joe to come and talk to us - are you?

Trinity is collecting the following school supplies for Liberian Children's Ministry until September 29:

- spiral bound notebooks
- pencils
- new or gently used backpacks
- monetary gifts to help cover shipping costs (*checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church or enveloped cash should be clearly labeled LIBERIAN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY and placed in offering plate or delivered to Trinity's office - please submit by September 22*)

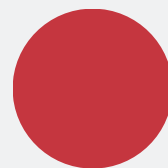
Donated supplies may be placed in marked boxes located in the church fellowship hall and school entryway.

BACK TO SCHOOL SEARCH AND FIND



**What
did
the triangle
say to the
circle?**

**"You're
pointless."**



**HA!
HA!**

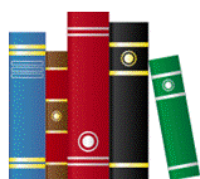
How many words can
you create from the
letters in

Back to School?

See if you can come up with at
least ten words!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Did you make it? Good Job!



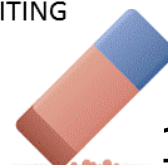
Back to School

Z	G	N	S	T	U	D	E	N	T	L	V	Q
P	D	O	S	A	Y	U	A	J	E	I	G	U
Y	E	T	E	L	X	A	O	Y	G	L	U	E
Q	J	E	C	L	U	B	O	O	K	S	E	F
W	U	B	E	E	J	N	S	T	G	H	R	R
R	U	O	R	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	A	K
I	R	O	X	J	I	X	T	H	Q	P	S	R
T	P	K	O	W	J	P	B	M	B	E	E	E
I	M	A	M	D	E	Z	H	U	D	O	R	L
N	A	L	P	N	I	G	Z	T	M	R	X	U
G	T	K	C	E	R	M	L	B	N	L	G	R
R	H	I	L	G	R	G	N	I	D	A	E	R
P	L	A	Y	G	R	O	U	N	D	R	E	I

BOOKS
DESK
ERASER
GLUE
LUNCHBOX
MATH

NOTEBOOK
PAPER
PENCIL
PLAYGROUND
READING
RECESS

RULER
STUDENT
TEACHER
WRITING



dates to Remember

UPcoming EVENTS

Friday, September 19 - **Scripture Calligraphy**

Artist Timothy Botts, 10 a.m.

Friday, September 19 - **Hot Lunch: Pizza**

Tuesday, September 23 - **Hot Lunch: Mostaccioli**

Wednesday, September 24 - **Chapel, 8:30 a.m.**

Wednesday, September 24 - **Cross Country @ Jerusalem/
Morton Grove**

Friday, September 26 - **Fun Run (during school)**

Sunday, September 28 - **Students sing in church, 9 a.m.**

Monday, September 29 - **El Famous Burrito fundraiser**

Tuesday, September 30 - **Chapel: Missionary Joe Boway,
Liberian Children's Ministry, 8:30 a.m.**

Tuesday, September 30 - **Hot Lunch: Sloppy Joes**

Wednesday, October 1 - **NO CHAPEL**

Friday, October 3 - **Hot Lunch: Hot Dogs**

Monday, October 6 - **Picture retakes**

Monday, October 6 - **Cross Country @ St. Peter/Schaumburg**

Tuesday, October 7 - **Hot Lunch: Pizza**

Wednesday, October 8 - **Chapel, 8:30 a.m.**

Friday, October 10 - **NO SCHOOL: Teacher
in service day**

Monday, October 13 - **NO SCHOOL:
Columbus Day**

Tuesday, October 14 - **Hot Lunch: Mac 'n'
Cheese**

Wednesday, October 15 - **Chapel, 8:30 a.m.**

Thursday, October 16 - **Wendy's fundraiser**

Friday, October 17 - **Nachos for \$1**



*Photos: Trinity Chargers Cross Country team at the
September 15 meet at Willowbrook High School.*