

The New Trinity Times

- TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL -

MARCH 2024

Lombard, Illinois

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK by Angelina Iverson and Sophia Garcia

On the first day of Lutheran Schools Week, the older students read to the younger children, in the church and in their classrooms. On Tuesday, the entire school took a field trip to the Brookfield Zoo. Each class saw a lot of different animals, including giraffes, penguins, gorillas and crocodiles. The school was there for almost the whole day. All of the students and teachers had fun exploring the zoo. Wednesday was Dress Your Best Day, a time to dress like you were going to church. Everyone looked very nice in their dresses and suits. Thursday was Pajama Day. We made cards for Phil's Friends, and teachers made breakfast for the students. Everyone was comfy in their pajamas eating delicious french toast, sausage, and cereal, with orange juice or milk to drink. Friday was the last day of our amazing week. Students' grandparents (or special people) came to Trinity and enjoyed students singing and leading a special "The Lord is My Shepherd" chapel. Next everyone went to the gym to hear a story from our one and only Mrs. Perez. After participating in a fun craft with their grandchildren, the adults had the opportunity to visit classrooms. With early dismissal, many students got to go and spend some more time with their grandparents after school.



- March 19: Hot Lunch - Hot Dog
- March 20: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study
- March 24: Palm Sunday Services, 9 a.m. (and March 25, 6 p.m.)
- March 25-April 1: NO SCHOOL - Easter Break
- March 28: Maundy Thursday Services, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- March 29: Good Friday Services, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- March 31: Easter Sunday Services, 7 & 10 a.m. with Easter Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. (no service April 1)
- April 2: SCHOOL RESUMES, 8:15 a.m.
- April 2: Hot Lunch - Mostaccioli
- April 4: Hands On Family Fun Night, 5:30 - 7 p.m. Spring fun for families with preschool and kindergarten aged children
- April 9: Hot Lunch - Pizza
- April 13: "Lifetime Plan for Giving Workshop," 12-2 p.m. FREE with LUNCH
- April 16: Hot Lunch - Mac 'n' Cheese
- April 23: Hot Lunch - Hot Dog
- April 23: Trinity Lutheran School Fine Arts Fair
- April 28: Students Sing in church Service, 9 a.m.
- April 30: Hot Lunch - Mostaccioli

SEE PHOTOS FROM LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK ON PAGE 2 AND 4

UPCOMING
EVENTS



The New Trinity Times is a monthly newsletter created by Trinity's 5th through 8th grade Journalism students.



Lutheran Schools Week: Connected to Sharing - Older students read to younger children.



Lutheran Schools Week: Connected to God's Creation - Field trip to Brookfield Zoo.



Lutheran Schools Week: Connected to Jesus - Dress Your Best Day.



Lutheran Schools Week: Connected to Serving - Pajama Day and teacher-served breakfast



Lutheran Schools Week: Connected to Family - Grandparents' Day with special chapel.

Why Easter Is Important *by Abigail Pilny*

Easter is very important and I'm going to tell you why. God had given His only Son, Jesus Christ, who was born of Mary. That's actually what Christmas is all about.

But why was Jesus born? Well, He was born to die on the cross and save us from our sins. So on good Friday, Jesus Christ - God and man - died on the cross and was buried in a tomb. Easter Sunday, He rose from the dead and became alive! He conquered death for us. Isn't that so neat to know?

The Son of God loved us enough to die for us so that we can spend eternity in Heaven with Him! Think about that and make sure to dress nice and go to church on Easter Sunday. It falls on March 31 this year. So be ready!

Trinity Lutheran Church

Lent Church Service & Midweek Bible Study

March 20: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. & 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study

Holy Week Services

March 24: Palm Sunday Services, 9 a.m. (and March 25, 6 p.m.)

March 28: Maundy Thursday Services, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.

March 29: Good Friday Services, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.)

Easter Sunday

**March 31: Easter Sunday Services, 7 & 10 a.m. with
Easter Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.**

(no service April 1)



FAVORITE ANIMALS FROM BROOKFIELD ZOO

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

A survey of Miss Kraegel's preschool classroom brought these results:

Elena, Logan, and Violet:

THE GIRAFFES

Ben and Naomi:

THE LIONS

Annika and Morgan:

THE MONKEYS

Aaron and Caden:

THE TIGERS

Jade:

THE CHEETAHS

Aiden S:

THE GORILLAS

Wesley:

THE JAGUARS



Mrs. Allor's 1st and 2nd grade students shared their favorites:

Mia and Trevor:

THE BEARS

Adrina:

THE CAT THAT WAS SLEEPING

Vince:

THE CHEETAHS

Olivia:

THE FOXES

Kenzie:

THE JELLYFISH AND THE CAT

Karlo:

THE LIONS

Kayli:

THE MONKEYS

Brandon:

THE ORANGUTANS

Thomas:

THE PEACOCKS

Marcus:

THE WOLVES

Zian:

THE ZEBRAS



Meet Mrs. Moy by Ava Harrison, Addison Meredith, and Ariana Mehrazar

Q: What do you do here at Trinity?

A: I am the Administrative Assistant at school and for the church. I take care of emails and I make sure that everything is running smoothly. I am also a school nurse, and I copy the church bulletins, and order things like milk. I take care of enrollment. I give tours for new students and other people. If kids forget something then I call their parents. I answer the phone too. I proofread the newsletters, and order all of the supplies we need.

Q: Do you have any pets?

A: I used to have a dog and she passed away when she was about 18 years old.

Q: Where are you from?

A: I was born in Taipei, Taiwan and came here when I was very young (around preschool age) but I still speak Mandarin.

Q: What do you do for fun?

A: I used to go ice skating and knit, but now I watch movies.

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: Red

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse?

A: Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Q: What is your favorite part of working here?

A: The students and the church's homebound people...I make little goodie bags for them.

Q: What was your favorite subject when you were in school?

A: Math

Q: How many years have you worked here?

A: I'm almost done with five years.

Q: Where did you go to college?

A: I received my undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois and my Masters degree from DePaul University in Chicago.

Q: What is your greatest achievement?

A: Raising my kids

Q: Have you ever been a teacher before?

A: Yes, I've been a preschool teacher, and a Sunday School teacher for elementary and high school.

Q: Do you have a quote you live by?

A: I live by the teachings of the Bible.

Q: What is the hardest part of your job?

A: Juggling everything!

Q: What is your favorite hymn?

A: And Can It Be

Q: What is your favorite television show?

A. Star Trek: The Next Generation

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: Sushi

Q: What is your favorite flower?

A: Orchids

Q: When did you become a Christian?

A: When I was really young like grade school, but I rededicated my life in high school and really realized what it meant.



Meet Mr. McOlgan

by: Ariana Mehrazar and Abigail Pilny

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: Shades of Green.

Q: What made you want to teach piano here?

A: I've known Ms. Rose for a long time and she needed some help because she's so busy, and she asked me to help her!

Q: Where did you grow up?

A: Galesburg, Illinois.

Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: I exercise at Loyola Center for fitness, and I teach private clarinet, saxophone, and piano lessons from my home in Forest Park. I also play alto saxophone in the Joliet Community Band.

Q: Who is your favorite singer?

A: Barbara Streisand.

Q: Are you a morning person or a night person?

A: Night, I'm not good in the morning.

Q: What song do you like to play on the piano the most?

A: Here I am, Lord - and I love The Great American Songbook.

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse?

A: I love the Psalms - The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

Q: At what age did you start playing piano?

A: I was 6.

Q: What is your favorite sport to play or watch?

A: Basketball is fun to watch.

Q: What is your greatest achievement?

A: My junior high band won the state championship, called Superstate, at the University of Illinois. I have also built the music program from scratch at Riverside-Brookfield High School.

Q: Do you have a specific quote that you teach by?

A: Practice for next week's lesson the minute you get home! And I love that the Trinity musicians enjoy developing a repertoire.

Q: What is the hardest part of your job?

A: Driving to and from the schools I teach at, because many people lack empathy on the roads.

Q: What is your favorite hymn?

A: For the Beauty of the Earth, especially the John Rutter setting.

Q: Who is your favorite historical figure?

A: I have always admired Rosa Parks.

Q: Who was your favorite teacher as a child?

A: My favorite is my piano teacher.



Mr. Kevin McOlgan is Trinity Lutheran School's piano instructor.

Q: Which university did you attend?

A: The University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Q: If you didn't become a piano teacher, what would you be instead?

A: I would focus all my time on saxophone.

Q: What is your favorite flower?

A: I've always liked tulips.

Q: What kinds of food do you like?

A: Every day I graze on fruits, vegetables, and smoothies.

Q: Where did you go to school?

A: I went to Galesburg Public Schools.





FAVORITE BIBLE VERSES

by Ariana Mehrazar

A survey of the 7th and 8th grade class produced these favorite Scriptures...

Angelina:

Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare, and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Sophia:

Revelation 22:21 - "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen."

Aidan:

Proverbs 27:15-16 - "A continual dripping on a rainy day and a quarrelsome wife are alike; to restrain her is to restrain the wind or to grasp oil in one's right hand."

Tyler:

Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

The 5th and 6th grade students shared their favorite verses from the Bible...

Addison:

John 1:5 - "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Ariana:

Philippians 4:8 - "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Ava:

Psalms 139:14 - "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

Psalms 54:7 - "For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies."

Psalms 61:1 - "Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer;"

Job 12:20 - "In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind."

Abby:

Mark 10:45 - "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Arian:

Ezekiel 22:20 - "As one gathers silver and bronze and iron and lead and tin into a furnace, to blow the fire on it in order to melt it, so I will gather you in my anger and in my wrath, and I will put you in and melt you."

Francesco:

Leviticus 20:16 - "If a woman approaches any animal and lies with it, you shall kill the woman and the animal; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them."

Roscoe:

Genesis 1:1 - "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

Damian:

Leviticus 20:16 - "If a woman approaches any animal and lies with it, you shall kill the woman and the animal; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them."



Catfish Facts

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- Catfish are bottom dwellers.
- Catfish are known for their whiskers, or barbels, which help them taste and smell.
- The channel catfish has an average life span of eight years.
- The average size for this fish is one to two pounds in weight and 12 to 32 inches in length.
- It may attain a maximum length of 50 inches.
- The tail is forked, and the top half of the tail fin is longer than the bottom half.
- A channel catfish can live around 15 years.



ROYAL GRAMMA by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- These purple and yellow fish are 2 to 3 inches in length.
- Grammas tend to position themselves with their bellies toward a solid substrate (such as sand or straw).
- Royal Gramma are very clean eaters.
- The largest scientifically-measured royal gramma was 8 centimeters long (that's less than three and a quarter inches).
- These aquatic beauties are calm and rather shy.
- The Royal Dottyback is very similar in looks to the Royal

Gramma, which has almost exactly the same purple-yellow color pattern. If you're not sure, just have a look at the dorsal fin, or the back fin. If the fish lacks a black dot, then you're dealing with the Dottyback, not the Gramma

- Royal Gramma live for about eight years

Leopard Shark by Ava Harrison

- Leopard sharks live for up to 30 years.
- Leopard sharks are one of the most common sharks found along the coast of California.
- They can have up to 55 teeth in their upper jaw and 45 in the lower jaw.
- Leopard sharks eat a lot of invertebrates, including shrimp, crabs, clam siphons and octopi.
- Unlike most fish, which lay eggs, a mother leopard shark keeps her eggs inside her body until they hatch. After 10 to 12 months, she gives birth to a litter of 7 to 36 pups, each about 7 inches long.
- Leopard sharks weigh about 22 pounds.
- Leopard sharks are not aggressive.
- Leopard sharks breathe through the five gill on each side of their body.





All About Porcupines by Roscoe Barnett

If you want to learn about porcupines then you've come to the right place. Porcupines are little spiky rat looking things. Porcupines' most famous feature is their quills. Their quills are hollow and 2 to 3 inches (5 to 7 centimeters) in length. They also are very good climbers and regularly climb trees. Porcupines are more likely to flee predators, but if cornered, it will erect its quills, turn it's back to the attacker and lash its barbed tail. Also they weigh around 20 pounds (9 kilograms) and

are 2 to 3 feet (60 to 90 centimeters) in length. Their habitat is usually in mixed forests and grasslands. In the wild, they are known to live as long as 18 years. They usually eat a wide range of plant material.



The Scoop on Sloths

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- Everyone knows that sloths are slow, but did you know their food digestive system is also slow?
- There are two different types of sloths in the world, two-toed and three-toed.
- Sloths are surprisingly good at swimming.
- Sloths may look like they are smiling all the time, but their facial structure makes it look like they are smiling.
- Sloths are herbivores.
- Sloths live 20 to 30 years.
- Sloths are about three times stronger than humans.
- Sloths are blind.
- Sloths are faster in water than they are on land.



Capybaras

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- The capybara is the world's largest rodent.
- Capybaras love the water and are very strong swimmers.
- Capybaras are highly sociable creatures.
- Capybaras are surprisingly relaxed with other species.
- Jaguars are the main threat to adult capybaras.
- Capybaras live an extra-long life in captivity.
- A capybara can sleep underwater by keeping its nose above the water line.
- Capybaras are native to South America.
- Capybaras are herbivores, grazing on grasses and water plants by using their long, sharp teeth.



OTTERLY Awesome Facts About Otters

by Ava Harrison

- Otters are not picky eaters.
 - They are semi-aquatic.
 - A species of otter, the river otter, can hold their breath for up to eight minutes while under water.
 - River otters spend more time on land than in the water.
 - Otters wash themselves after every meal.
 - The otter is the largest member of the weasel family.
 - River otters can dive to a depth of 60 feet.
- Baby otters are called pups.
 - Otters often hold hands while sleeping so they don't float away from each other.
 - Thirteen different species of otter exist all around the world.
 - 90% of all sea otters live on the coast of Alaska.
 - They like to eat sea urchins, crabs, mussels, and clams.
 - They use rocks to crack open clams so they can eat them.

Brazilian Rainbow Boa

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith



- The Brazilian Rainbow Boa is named for its iridescent skin that refracts light and creates a rainbow-colored effect.
- They are not venomous snakes: they constrict or squeeze their prey to kill them.
- These snakes are excellent swimmers.
- They can live about ten years in the wild and up to 30 years in human care.
- They have very long teeth; they have six rows of sharply recurved, or backward curving, teeth.
- Brazilian Rainbow Boas are 4 to 6 feet in length.
- The Brazilian Rainbow Boa typically weighs from 2 to 5 pounds.
- Wild rainbow boas eat rodents, lizards and birds, but if they live near water, they will catch and consume amphibians and possibly fish.
- Unlike most snakes they do not lay eggs; as boas, they give birth to live young.
- Rainbow boas can typically have between 6 to 24 babies, depending on the size and age of the snake, with each baby measuring 9 to 12 inches at birth.

Tunkis: Amazing Birds

by Ava Harrison

A Tunki, otherwise known as the Andean cock-of-the-rock, is an amazing bird. Here are some things to know about this amazing bird...

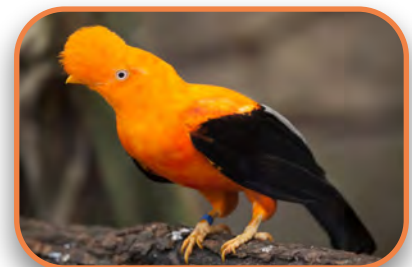
Where are they found? Tunkis are native to the Andean cloud forests of South America.

Are they endangered? Even though its population is considered in decline, the Andean Cock-of-the-rock remains widespread and is not considered to be in immediate danger. However, it remains vulnerable to habitat loss.

What is the typical Tunki diet? Their diet consist of mainly fruits and some insects.

What does the name mean? Why is this bird called a cock... Well, obviously, the bright orange crest of the Tunki reminds people of a rooster, and it's the cock-of-the-rock because it prefers to nest on rocks and cliffs.

Two facts about Tunkis... The Tunki is a shy and inconspicuous fowl AND it is the National bird of Peru.





International Day of Happiness

by Ariana Mehrazar

International Day of Happiness—what is it? To put it simply, International Day of Happiness, on March 20, is what it seems, a time to be happy. There’s more history to this special day than you’ll think.

We celebrate International Day of Happiness thanks to the work done by the United Nations and its partner nonprofit group Action for Happiness, which is composed of people from 160 countries. The goal of the movement is to spread awareness that progress is not only about increasing bottom lines and encouraging economic growth, but well-being and human happiness as well. In 2011, the UN General Assembly adapted a resolution that made it a “fundamental human goal” to give happiness as much priority as economic opportunity. Only two years later, in 2013, all 193 member states of the UN celebrated the world’s first International Day of Happiness, and this event has continued to grow since.

Around the world, people are celebrating happiness. Making someone happy can make you happy, too. If you can make one person smile, then that person can make a second person smile. And a third person, as well. A smile can spread across the whole world. How could you make someone smile today? Try slipping cheerful notes into places for people to find. You might be surprised how simple things can spread joy!

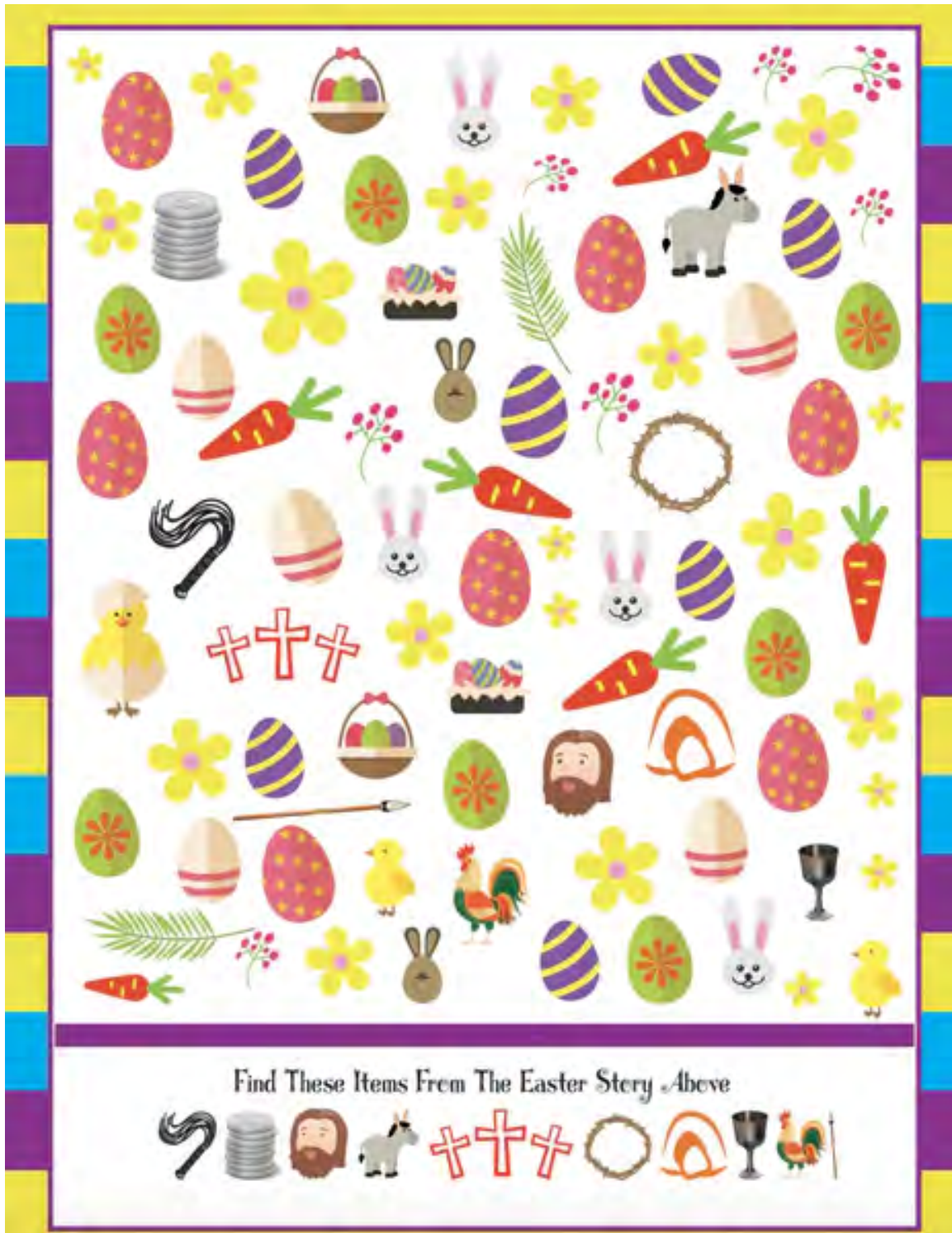
DRAKE

by Francesco Lamphere

Drake is an American rapper that won a Grammy this year and he is also currently most popular rapper in the United States and has a huge following throughout North America and around the world. Drake was born October 24, 1986, in Toronto. Canadian, he is known for his biggest hit, **God’s Plan**. Drake has more lead hits than any other rapper, with only Kanye West close enough to be in the same league. **God’s Plan** has 1.8 billion views on Spotify and **Hotline Bling** follows with 1.6 billion. Drake’s video, **Started from the Bottom** has 444 million views on YouTube making it one of the most popular songs online. As a leading rapper, Drake has so many fans that are crazy for him. With top viewed songs and a band he enjoys playing with, Drake is not going away anytime soon.



***Editor’s note:** Drake’s religious leanings have been the subject of speculation. Raised by a devout Christian mother, he attended church frequently as a child and observed Christian holidays while attending a Jewish school. He calls himself spiritual, but does not currently openly practice Christianity.*



The New Trinity Times is a monthly newsletter produced by the 5th through 8th grade students of Trinity Lutheran School in Lombard, Illinois. The 2023-2024 staff members are: Addison, Abigail, Aidan, Angelina, Arian, Ariana, Ava, Damian, Francesco, Roscoe, Sophia, and Tyler, under the direction of Mrs. Lori Solyom, journalism teacher.