THE TRINITY TWEET

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The mission of Trinity Lutheran School is to assist families to make fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ through Christ-centered education.

When Enough Isn't the Question | 2 Corinthians 8:1–9

We are talking money today, **PLEASE DON'T STOP READING!** How much is enough? It's a pretty simple question, isn't it? I'm not sure there's a simple answer.

How many times have we told ourselves, *"If I could just make a little more money..."* or *"Once we get through this season of life..."* or *"When we finally get ahead financially, then we'll be able to give more, help more, and do more."*

The problem is that **enough always seems to be a moving target.** We get a raise, but expenses increase. We pay something off, but something else breaks. As parents, we want to provide for our children, give them opportunities, and make sure they don't miss out on experiences. None of those desires are necessarily bad. But somewhere along the way, we can begin confusing *providing more* with *loving more.*

This weekend, Pastor Chris continued our **Money Matters** sermon series. In 2 Corinthians, Paul tells us about the churches in Macedonia, Christians who were experiencing severe trials and extreme poverty. In other words, they didn't have much. Yet Paul tells us their overwhelming joy and extreme poverty resulted in rich generosity! Wait a minute. How does that work?

We tend to think generosity happens when we have an abundance. When the bills are paid, the savings account is healthy, and there's a little extra left over. But the Macedonians didn't wait until they had enough. In fact, Paul tells us they were practically begging for the opportunity to give! **Their generosity wasn't determined by what was in their bank account. It was determined by what God had done in their hearts.**

Pastor Chris shared three important truths about generosity that I think are especially meaningful for us:

1. Generosity Opens Hands and Hearts- We often hold tightly to our money, possessions, and time because we think they bring security and happiness. But when our hands are closed around what we have, it's hard to bless others. Our children need to see grateful hearts that recognize God's blessings rather than hearts focused on what we lack. One of the greatest gifts we can give them is an example of gratitude and generosity.

2. Generosity Opens Opportunities- The Macedonians eagerly looked for opportunities to give because they understood generosity was a way to participate in God's work. Every day, we have opportunities to encourage others, help families in need, support ministries, and serve those who cannot repay us. Our children learn generosity by watching us live it, seeing it not as an obligation but as an opportunity.

3. Generosity Shows Life in Freedom- Money and possessions can create fear, worry, and comparison. But generosity reflects a heart learning to live in freedom rather than fear. The Macedonians gave because they knew God, not because they had everything they wanted. As 2 Corinthians 8:9 reminds us, Jesus became poor for our sake so that through Him we might become rich. He gave His life so we could receive forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.

Because of Jesus, we don't have to find our worth in possessions or earn God's love through giving. We give because we are already loved. That's the truth we want our children to understand: Their value isn't found in what they own or how they compare to others, but in Jesus Christ, who loved them enough to give His life for them.

So, How Much Is Enough? Maybe instead of asking, *"When will I have enough to give?"* we should be asking, *"What has God already given me, and how can I use it to bless someone else?"*

As parents, we spend so much time trying to make sure our children have enough. But what if we spent just as much time teaching them that **Jesus is enough.** Because the greatest thing we can give our children isn't a life filled with more stuff. It's a life rooted in the grace, love, and freedom found in Jesus Christ.

This week, ask your children three questions:

> What is something we sometimes hold on to too tightly?
> How can our family use what God has given us to bless someone else?
> Why is Jesus the greatest gift we've ever received?

Then, find one opportunity to practice generosity together. Not because we're trying to earn something from God, but because of everything He's already given us.

Family Prayer Heavenly Father, thank You for the blessings You have poured into our lives. Forgive us when we focus more on what we don't have than on what You've already given us. Open our hands and hearts to the needs of others. Help us recognize opportunities to share Your love and live in the freedom we have through Jesus. Teach us and our children that our greatest treasure isn't found in possessions, but in the grace and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. In His name, Amen.

VETERANS DAY CHAPEL This Wednesday, November 11, we will have a special Veterans Day Chapel Service beginning at 10:00 a.m. (not 8:20). All veterans are invited. A small reception for veterans will follow the service.

IRON MEN NOVEMBER MEET-UP The Iron Men group will be meeting again on Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Kuhnhenn's on Groesbeck for faith talks and fellowship. Join Mr. Brown by submitting an RSVP.

TRIMESTER ENDS THIS WEEK Our first trimester ends this Friday, November 13. IT IS A HALF-DAY OF SCHOOL, 11:30 DISMISSAL. Report cards will be sent home with students on Tuesday, November 18. Please sign and return the envelope once you have reviewed your students report card. The copy of the report card is yours to keep.

LOST AND FOUND DONATED ON FRIDAY! The lost & found rack in the Coffee Oasis will be donated at the end of this week. Please check (or have your student check) for missing clothes, shoes, water bottles and lunch boxes!

THANKGIVING BASKET UPDATE Thank you to everyone who donated on Friday for the Thanksgiving baskets. We will still be collecting through Thursday, November 19 for anyone who still would like to donate or missed the chance for Friday's dress-down day. Items requested include canned vegetables, canned cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes, boxed mashed potatoes or stuffing, turkey gravy, butter, frozen fruit pies, and frozen turkey.

THANKSGIVING MEAL LETTER Last week Tuesday, an email was sent from Mr. Brown about a confidential sign-up to receive a complete Thanksgiving meal basket. We want to ensure that all our famliies have the opportunty to share a wonderful meal together this holiday. If you haven't signed up and would like to, please use THIS LINK by Friday, November 13.

BOOK FAIR COMING SOON Trinity is partnering with I:55 Book Fairs for our school-wide book fair again this year. The Book Fair is taking place the week of November 16-20. See attached flyer for more details, and sign up HERE to help during the week.

SPIRITWEAR ORDERS Did you miss the spiritwear order earlier this fall? The online store will open again next week. Items will arrived in time for Christmas gifts.

FRIDAY SOUP Starting Friday, November 20, Mrs. Chillcutt's homemade chicken noodle soup will be back on the menu. It is an "ala carte" item and costs $1 which will be billed to your lunch account. Per government lunch guidelines, students must have either a lunch from home or a school meal to go with the soup or any other

ala carte item ordered – ala carte items cannot be the only thing a student is eating for lunch. If they do not have food from home to go with an ala carte item, they will be given a meal and it will be changed to RenWeb. Thank you.

GRADES 3 and 4 HOMEWORK SUPPORT In November and December, there will be homework support on Tuesdays from 3:15-3:45 in third and fourth grade classrooms. Ms. Gerace and Mrs. Huff will be working with students to help complete homework and prep for tests. At 3:45, students will be picked up from the Coffee Oasis or checked in to SAC. Students MUST be signed up to attend – there is availability for eight students each week.

SNOWMAN ONESIE We are in need of borrowing a snowman onesie for the Christmas Program. If you have one that we can borrow, please reach out to Ms. Kopper at jkopper@trinityct.org



ATTENTION HUNTERS Mr. Brown is looking for deer hearts to use as part of the upper grade science curriculum. If you or someone you know would like to contribute, please reach out to Mr. Brown.

PEP SQUAD It's time for Pep Squad! Students in grades 1/2/3/4 can join this club and cheer at the JV home basketball games in November and December. See the attached flyer for more details. Or contact Mrs. McMahon.



GIFT CARDS MAKE GREAT GIFTS—With the holidays approaching, get your shopping done with Raise Right and help Trinity in the process. By purchasing gift cards through RaiseRight's over 500 businesses, you can earn money toward student tuition and help Trinity in the process. RaiseRight offers physical gift cards as well as ecards so you can pay instantly from your phone. AND you can link other friends and family to your account to save even more! For the enrollment code and to ask questions, contact Mrs. Nyboer in the school office.

MEDICINE REMINDER For the safety of every student, any medication for your child should be left in the school office. This includes both prescriptions and over-the-counter medicine like cough drops.

STUDENT ABSENCES When an absence is necessary, parents should always contact the school office (not just the teacher). Please call (586) 468-8511 first thing on the day of the absence to indicate the student name, grade, and reason for the absence. If it is before 7:30 a.m., please leave a voicemail. Email is also an acceptable way to share an absence and may be sent to Mrs. Nyboer and Mrs. Steenkamp with an explanation.

CHURCH EXTENSION FUND ON FRIDAYS CEF is a savings program that students may support each week. You can ready about the non-profit work of CEF on their website. Students "purchase" stamps, and the money gets put into an account for them at Church Extension Fund. Parents must be on the account with their minor children. The money earns interest, and you'll get statements regarding the balance on a regular basis.

FRIDAY DRESS CODE On most Fridays, theme shirts or Trinity spirit wear tops may be worn with uniform bottoms (free) or jeans ($1). This is NOT a dressdown day, therefore there are intentionally less options.

ALLOWED -
- Theme shirts from current or past school years
- Trinity spirit wear tops
- Uniform bottoms (free) or Jeans ($1)

NOT ALLOWED -
- No Michigan State Spartans clothing
- No sweatpants, joggers, leggings or other non-jeans/non-uniform bottoms.
- No Thrivent shirts (we love them, just not on Fridays)

Please continue to follow the guidelines so we may keep Spirit Wear Fridays!

NOVEMBER CHAPEL OFFERING is going to Operation Christmas Child. Their mission is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way by sending gift-filled shoe boxes to children in need around the world. Thank you for supporting this ministry through chapel offerings this month.

OCC BOXES In addition to chapel offering supporting Operation Christmas Child, third grade teacher, Mrs. Huff, has empty boxes if you would like to fill a shoebox as a family. Boxes need to be filled and returned to Mrs. Huff by Friday, November 20. If you are interested, please email Mrs. Huff at chuff@trinityct.org

SCHOOL CALENDAR

November 11	***10:00 a.m.*** Veterans Day Chapel
November 13	First Trimester Ends
	HALF-DAY DISMISSAL 11:30
November 15	Grades 5 and 6 sing at 11:00 Worship
November 16-20	Book Fair
November 17	Report cards sent home
November 18	8:20 Chapel
November 22	Advanced Band plays at 8:30 Worship
November 23	K/2/4 Hearing Screening
November 25-27	NO SCHOOL
November 25	7:00p Thanksgiving Eve Worship
November 26	Thanksgiving
November 29	Advent begins
December 1	7:00p Band Christmas Concert
December 2	8:20 Chapel
December 6	Grades 1 and 2 sing at 11:00 Worship
December 9	8:20 Chapel
December 11	Casual Day for Christmas Baskets
December 16	10:00 Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal
	6:30 Christmas Program
December 17	JV Basketball Awards Night
December 18	**HALF-DAY – 11:30 DISMISSAL**
Dec 21-Jan 1	**NO SCHOOL – CHRISTMAS BREAK**
December 24	4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship for Families
	7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
	10:00 pm Christmas Eve Contemporary Worship
December 25	10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship
January 4	School Resumes

DONAVON RILEY: FROM DARKNESS TO GRACE

On November 21, St. John Lutheran Church & School in Rochester, invites you to a special event featuring Rev. Donavon Riley as he addresses the deeply personal challenges of mental health and addiction. Grounded in a rich Lutheran theology of grace, his message and gift for storytelling moves beyond self-made solutions to shine a light on the true rest, healing, and hope found in Christ alone. Whether you are personally struggling, supporting a loved one, or seeking to care for your community, come be encouraged by the daily reality that we do not have to carry our heaviest burdens alone. More information is available on the SJR website.

LUTHERAN HIGH NORTH UPCOMING EVENTS

November 12 – Elementary Art Night

Students in Grades K / 1 / 2 are inviter to join Mrs. Burge and some LHN students to create Yayoi Kusama Pumpkins!

VOLUNTEER CORNER

K/1/2 LUNCH AND RECESS VOLUNTEERS Grades K/1/2 are looking for volunteers to help each day in the lunchroom and on the playground. Duties include walking around the lunch tables, opening packages, walking kids to the restroom and waiting in the hallway, and walking the playground to monitor students with other staff members. A Parent Participation Form is required to volunteer. No siblings, please, so attention can be on K/1/2 students. Use THIS LINK to sign up. Please email Mrs. McMahon with questions at jmcmahon@trinityct.org

3/4 RECESS VOLUNTEERS Third and Fourth Grades are looking for Recess Volunteers for Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. A Parent Participation Form is required to volunteer. No siblings, please. Use THIS LINK for November to sign up. Please email Mrs. Huff with questions at chuff@trinityct.org

LIBRARY SIGNUP Library volunteers are needed every Friday in the school to help with checking books in and out for the students, as well as reading to small groups or individuals. The signup has been updated for the second trimester Sign Up HERE **A Parent Participation Form is required to volunteer.** For questions contact Mrs. Pace at (586) 260-2074.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR KIDS AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Trinity's kids ministry program is in need of Sunday school volunteers! Please contact Nicole Demopoulos at ndemopoulos@trinityct.org if you are interested in helping. Dan Potoczak is looking for adults who are willing to be part of our prayer and presence team. These adults will meet before the youth events start to pray for them as well as their leaders. To participate, contact Dan at dpotoczak@trinityct.org

CHURCH INFORMATION ----------

WEEKEND CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays at 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

YOUTH NIGHT—Sunday Night Youth Night is a place to hang out, have fun, build friendships, and grow in faith. Sundays 6-7:30 p.m., in the Youth Lounge. All students in grades 6-12 are welcome! For more information, reach out to Mr. Dan at dpotoczak@trinityct.org

GIVE BLOOD—Trinity hosts a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, Nov. 23 from 12-6 p.m. in the Community Center. As an extra incentive, the Red Cross is giving out Wheel of Fortune mugs to donors. For an appointment, call Lisa Riviera at 586-463-2921, ext. 111, or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: TrinityCT. Go to RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health questions on the day of your appointment.

BETHLEHEM BREAKFAST–The Bethlehem Breakfast is scheduled for Dec. 5 at the Italian-American Cultural Center. The event theme is "Keeping Christ in Christmas Around the World" and features a full breakfast, music and a program. This ladies-only event is open to all Trinity women, girls and their guests. Tickets are $30 and will be sold Nov. 1-20 from the Church Office and on Sunday, Nov. 8, 15 and 22 between services. For more information or to volunteer to be a reader, text Bonnie Young at 586-350-3222 or call the church office.