
THE TRINITY TWEET

Issue No. 8
October 19, 2026



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

Whose Image Do You Bear?

Have you ever found yourself trying to make God fit into your plans rather than allowing His plans to shape your life?

I think we all do this more often than we would like to admit. We like things to be predictable, comfortable, and neatly organized. We have our expectations, our opinions, and our ideas about how life should work. Sometimes, without even realizing it, we try to fit God into a nice, neat box that aligns with what we want rather than surrendering ourselves to what *He* wants.

On Sunday Pastor Chris walked us through Matthew 22:15-22, where the Pharisees and Herodians approached Jesus with what they thought was the perfect trap. They asked Him whether it was right to pay taxes to Caesar. It was a carefully crafted question designed to put Jesus in an impossible position. If He supported the tax, He risked upsetting the Jewish people. If He opposed it, He could be accused of rebelling against Rome.

But Jesus saw right through their intentions. He called out their hypocrisy and asked them for a coin. Then He asked a simple question: **"Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"**

When they answered, "Caesar's," Jesus responded with words that still challenge us today: *"So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."* (Matthew 22:21)

Pastor Chris focused on three important ideas from this encounter: **The Trap, The Truth, and The Practice.**

The Trap: Like the Pharisees, we sometimes approach God with our minds already made up. We want His approval of our decisions, our priorities, and our way of thinking. We want a God who fits comfortably into our lives rather than a God who transforms them. But God doesn't exist to fit into our boxes. He calls us to something much greater.

The Truth: God's Word has a remarkable way of cutting through our excuses, challenging our assumptions, and revealing what is really in our hearts. Jesus didn't simply answer their question about taxes. He exposed a much deeper truth about ownership, identity, and belonging. God's truth isn't always what we want to hear, but it is always what we need.

The Practice: This is where the story becomes especially powerful. The coin bore Caesar's image, so it belonged to Caesar. But think about what that means for us. In Genesis 1:27, we are reminded that **we were created in the image of God.** We bear His imprint!

If the coin bearing Caesar's image belonged to Caesar, then what about us, who bear the very image of our Creator? We belong to God. Not just on Sunday mornings. Not just when life is going well. Not just the parts of our lives that are convenient to surrender. **All of us.** Our time, our talents, our relationships, our priorities, our successes, and even our struggles belong to Him.

As parents, this is an important reminder of what we are teaching our children. They are growing up in a world that constantly tells them their identity is found in their accomplishments, popularity, athletic ability, appearance, or the approval of others. But long before they earn a grade, make a team, or win an award, they have already been given an identity that matters far more. They are created in the image of God.

And so are we.

Perhaps the question for us this week isn't simply whether we are giving God enough of our time or attention. Perhaps the better question is, **"Am I living like someone who belongs to Him?"**

What would change in our families, our conversations, our priorities, and our daily decisions if we truly recognized that we bear God's image?

My encouragement this week is to spend some time as a family reflecting on that simple but profound truth. Ask your children, "What does it mean to be made in God's image?" And then take it one step further: "How can we reflect God's image in the way we treat others this week?"

Because ultimately, Jesus wasn't just teaching a lesson about coins and taxes. He was reminding us of something far more important. **The coin bears Caesar's image. We bear God's image. And the greatest thing we can give back to God is the very life He has given us.**

May we stop trying to fit God into our lives and instead allow Him to shape every part of who we are.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES are this week. Please make every effort to be on time and be respectful of your time slot as others will be waiting their turn. Remember, there is a half-day of school this Thursday with an 11:30 dismissal. There is no school on Friday.

EXTRA THEME SHIRTS FOR SALE We have a few extra Stand Firm shirts for sale in the school office in the following sizes:
Youth – Small, Medium, Large
Adult – S, M
You may bring cash or check, or we can send an invoice to FACTS customers. First come, first served!

THE LOST AND FOUND IS GROWING When you are here for parent-teacher conferences, please check the Lost and Found rack in the Coffee Oasis to see if anything belongs to your child(ren). Anything left at the end of the trimester in November will be donated.

SCHOOL PICTURE RETAKES will be Wednesday, October 28 after Chapel.

STUDENT V STAFF VOLLEYBALL GAME On Wednesday, October 28 at 4:00, the varsity girls volleyball team will take on the amazing and athletic Trinity staff in our annual student v. staff game. Everyone is welcome to watch and enjoy the fun.

NEW DANCE CLUB There is no Dance Club this week. A new session of Dance Club will begin on October 28. See attached flyer for more details and dates.

SPIRITWEAR ORDERS Did you miss the spiritwear order earlier this fall? Don't dismay. Another opportunity will be available in November in time for Christmas gifts! Stay tuned.

ADULT JEANS WANTED! WAVE PROJECT is a non-profit organization which provides mobile showers and essentials to men and women experiencing homelessness in the Metro Detroit area. One of our parents is involved with their organization and is collecting new or gently used ADULT jeans. Mens jeans sizes 30-36 are the highest need. A collection box will be in the Coffee Oasis for the month of October if you are interested in donating. Please contact Robyn with any additional questions at 248-318-4348.

TRINITY TRUNK OR TREAT Trinity will be the host site again this year for a parent-organized Trunk or Treat event on Friday, October 30. Students are welcome to dress up and visit the trunks in the parking lot where treats will be passed out. Trunks should be family friendly, not scary or decorated in a way that might frighten younger children. Set up for trunks will be from 6-7pm with Trick or Treating from 7-8pm. Food trucks will be available as well. This is a rain or shine event. We are looking forward to sharing time outside of school together! You may sign up [HERE](#). For questions, please contact Crystal Albensi or Nicole Thomas.

GLASS CONTAINERS AT LUNCH We have seen an increase in students eating lunches from glass containers or drinking from glass bottles. Please refrain from having students use glass at school!

OCTOBER + NOVEMBER CHAPEL OFFERING is going to Operation Christmas Child. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way by sending gift-filled shoe boxes to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations. Thank you for supporting this ministry through chapel offerings this month.

OCC BOXES In addition to October 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. Third graders will deliver empty boxes to your child's classroom to be sent home if requested. Thanks so much for joining us in this exciting outreach.

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!

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 read 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.

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.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

October 19	Mid-terms emailed
October 20	4p-7p Parent-Teacher Conferences
October 21	8:20 Chapel 4p-7p Parent-Teacher Conferences
October 22	HALF-DAY DISMISSAL 11:30 12:30-4p Parent-Teacher Conferences 5p-7p Parent Teacher Conferences
October 23	NO SCHOOL
October 25	Reformation (8:30) Confirmation (11:00) Grades 3 and 4 sing at 11:00 Worship
October 28	8:20 Reformation Chapel Picture retakes after Chapel 4:00 Student v. Staff Volleyball Game 5:30 Fall Sports Awards
October 30	Trunk or Treat
October 31	Reformation Day
November 1	Daylight Saving ends, fall back one hour!
November 2-6	Parent Appreciation Week
November 4	8:20 Chapel
November 6	Casual Day for Thanksgiving Baskets
November 8	Handbell students play at 8:30 Worship
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

APPLICATIONS to become a Lutheran North Mustang for the 2027-28 school year are officially OPEN! If you know a student who would be a great fit for our Lutheran North family, now is the time to take the first step. The early application deadline is December 15, 2026. Visit lutherannorth.com/apply-online

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](#) 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. [Sign up HERE](#) **A Parent Participation Form is required to volunteer.** For questions contact Mrs. Pace at (586) 260-2074.

KIDSCO VOLUNTEERS As the [MomCo Group](#) grows in the church, help is needed to support our already established child care workers. Can you lend a hand once or twice a month on a Tuesday morning? Assist our caregivers in playing with little ones for just a couple hours? Please let Rachel Nyboer know if you can help by emailing her at rnyboer@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.

CHURCH BAGS FOR KIDS—Trinity provides church busy-bags for children to use in church. Children pick out a stuffed animal, book, activity sheet and snack to have during church. However, some of our stuffed animal friends have gone missing. If any have made their way home with your family, kindly return them to the church bag bins. If you are interested in donating Beanie Babies or other small stuffies for us to use for the church bags, please bring them to the Church Office.

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

FIRST BIBLE FOR 1ST AND 2ND GRADERS - It's time for Trinity's First Bible Stepping Stone. In this class, parents and children learn the how-tos of getting around a Bible and how the Bible is used to help nurture faith. The First Bible Stepping Stone meets in the Church Lounge on either Sunday, Nov. 8 at 9:30 a.m. or Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 6:30 p.m. Pick the date that works best for you. This class is designed for first and second graders and older students who have not participated. Bibles will be provided. If you have questions, contact the Church Office at church@trinityct.org or 586-463-2921. To register, visit trinityct.org/firstbible/

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER -----

ECC ACHATZ PIE FUNDRAISER From October 12-28, the ECC will be holding an Achatz Pie fundraiser. Order forms are available at their front desk. Please contact tlcecc@trinityct.org with any questions.