

# The Panther Press

NEWS BY THE STUDENTS FOR THE STUDENTS

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## STAFF SUPER STAR

### **Pastor Paul Tonn**

**By Mary Saladin**

Although Pastor Tonn has been here at Trinity Lutheran Church and School since 2016, there may still be some things you don't know about him, such



as his growing up years. Pastor Tonn grew up in Houston, Texas with his mom, dad, and brother. He had chores like mowing the yard, raking leaves, dusting the furniture, and feeding and washing

the dog. His favorite board game as a kid was "Don't Wake the Dragon," which he still has and plays with his daughters. He loves to read and his favorite as a boy was "any Hardy Boys book."

Growing up, Pastor's family was very involved in the church. Most of his activities were at his church because he lived right across the street from it. He also played sports like baseball, basketball, and soccer with his brother year-round. He and his brother were allowed to "ride bikes to our friend's house (three streets over) and didn't have to be home till dinner (no cell phones)." He also learned how to drive a farm truck at age 10 or 11. He helped haul hay or feed the cattle when he drove.

Pastor Tonn's favorite famous person is Abraham Lincoln because of "his confidence, courage, and steadfastness during hard times." He thinks the greatest invention is the printing press because books can be copied and widely distributed quicker, and because of his love of reading. "I will read just about anything," he said.

When asked for words of advice, Pastor offered Philippians 4:8: "Whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." Pastor chose this verse "because there is so much that the world wants us to think about that poisons our hearts and minds."

## CLASS BY CLASS

### **Preschool 3 and 4-year-old**

**By Fiona Rohde**

The Preschool class has been learning many things, such as how to count to twenty, how to write the numbers, and making graphs in math. Recently, they graphed what people's favorite pet was. Like most preschoolers, their favorite times of the day are snack time and recess.

Their teacher, Mrs. Kienitz, says that she enjoys reading to them, and that she always has. She also enjoys watching them learn about things and watching them understand everything as they go along.



### **Kindergarten/1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

**By Miriam Hunt**

The kindergarten and first-grade class have been busy this month. In the classroom, they have been learning about "-at" words. 1<sup>st</sup> grade has started learning about addition. Ila Johnson and Vivian Zimmerman like learning their ABCs, while Philip Pemberton's favorite thing is recess.



Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade got to go to Anderson and Girls Orchards in Stanton. They picked apples, saw the animals, and went on a wagon ride. Abby Rhodes said, "I got to pet goats and feed them." Bracy Lee liked getting to play on the train. "A wooden train," he clarified, "it wasn't real," he said.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

By Claire Miller

This month of October, the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class is filled with excitement and energy. A few weeks ago, the class went on a field trip to Oxford Farms in Hersey. Chloe said, “We did a scavenger hunt in the corn maze. It was fun! I would do it again.”

Now the class is looking forward to their upcoming class harvest party. Titus is excited for the simple reason of “Just because it’s gonna be fun!”

Harvest parties are different for each class, but everyone wears awesome and fun costumes. Not only students, but teachers too!

When asked if she ever thought she would become a teacher, Ms. Rivard answered, “I taught piano lessons since I was a teen, but I never taught a big group, so I was surprised at the opportunity.” Ms. Rivard says she enjoys teaching the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, “because I love kids and young children are so fun to work with.”

## 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grade

By Emma Davis

As the colder weather sets in, most classes want to get their field trips set before the snow flies. Mr. Rohde’s class in particular just went to the Boulder Ridge Wild Animal Park on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup>. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade class has gone there many times before and has enjoyed it each time.

Older students can recall traveling to Alto so they know what the kids mean when they say, “It’s so fun and full of animals!”

Since Halloween is coming up, our school will celebrate with harvest parties. Some kids already have their costume ideas picked out so make sure to



watch for them if you come to the parade! About the parade, Addy said, “it’s fun to see the decorations that people put up.” Lucas is also ready for his class harvest party and looks forward to “spending time with my friends in our costumes.”

All in all, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade class is getting

into a routine for the rest of the year.

Right now they are focusing on U.S. Geography for both grades and trying to draw leaves for the fall season. They are

also getting used to the new science curriculum.

The new curriculum might be challenging but school is for learning and that’s what all the classes are doing.

## 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade

By Lilly Allen

Fall brings fun activities, and for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade class, that means a bike ride

on the White Pine Trail through fall colors. They rode their bikes from Reed City to Paris, MI. Vieve Nicklas was excited for the



trip and all the students enjoyed the opportunity to learn away from school.

Mr. Keup’s class may seem tough and intimidating to

some students, but not to the two students I interviewed. Harper Deverman, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader, thinks that it’s “medium,” while 6<sup>th</sup> grader Vieve clearly stated it’s “easy.” Subjects, especially math, sometimes come difficult to students. Harper thinks otherwise, she thinks that it’s easy. To Vieve, art comes easily to her. Some subjects are easy while others will remain difficult.



## 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade

By Fiona Rohde

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classroom has been busy this past month. They have been learning about colonial times, how creationists view earth science, and the rules of algebra. Alaine Harrison says her favorite subject is Language



Arts, taught by Mrs. Strube. Elizabeth, on the other hand, likes Math.

Mr. Genthner answers that his favorite subject to teach has to be a tie between Religion and History. Recently, the class went on a field trip to the White Pine Village, an assortment of buildings

as they would be in colonial times. On that same trip, they visited Father Marquette's Memorial.

## PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

By Emma Davis

Last week, the school held a Pastor Appreciation chapel for all the area pastors. We asked Pastor Tonn who he appreciated in his life and he replied, "Besides God and my family, I would say that I appreciate those people that told me at a young age and into high school that I would be a good pastor. I'm grateful they followed God's lead and shared



what they felt God was placing on their heart."

Pastor Chris DeMott from the Church of the Nazarene in Reed City was there along with a fellow pastor

from his church, Pastor Joe Lee. When Pastor Chris was asked what the most challenging thing about

being a pastor is he said, "The most challenging thing is trying to find God's direction for the church and where he wants it to be led."

After the chapel service, several types of Pompeii's pizza was served. We are grateful for our pastors and pray God continues to shine through them.



## TRINITY CROSS COUNTRY

By Miriam Hunt

The Reed City Middle School Cross Country team, of which there are 8 Trinity students, had a great finish to their season. They recently ran their last race in Manistee and there were lots



of personal records and medals. The boys even took first! The runners worked hard throughout the season and did great in all their races. Mary Saladin said, "The season went good and I improved a lot." Lilly Allen was happy that she improved her time by two minutes.



## TRINITY VOLLEYBALL

**By Emma Davis**

The Trinity Panthers Volleyball season ended this past Saturday at the area-wide tournament.

Although they lost the tournament, they won 3 out of the 6 season games. This year's volleyball graduates are Elizabeth



Calabrese, Ava Keup, Alaine Harrison, Madeline Miniear, Emma Davis, and Ashlyn Chatel. Their game scores tripled compared to the last two years and each member's skills improved through teamwork and practice. Congratulations on a well-played season, Panthers!

## OCTOBER CONTEST WINNERS



**By Staff**

We hope you enjoyed coloring your pumpkins as much as we enjoyed looking at them! It was really difficult to pick the top three in each group, but we finally agreed upon these nine entries. Congratulations to all!

### **Group 1      Preschool to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade:**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Clint Wiltshire

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Milo Wiltshire

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Vivian Zimmerman

### **Group 2      Second Grade to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Cassidy DuBreuil

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Layla Deverman

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Noah Waldman

### **Group 3      Fifth Grade to Eighth Grade:**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Alaine Harrison

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Michael Visner

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Addi Harrison

## NOVEMBER COLORING CONTEST

**By Maddie Miniear**

The Panther Press staff is hosting another fun coloring contest for the month of November. Like the October contest, candy will be the prize and there will be three age groups and three winners from each group. Some students have asked if they can use glitter glue or cutouts from construction paper. Sure! But, check with your teacher first. You may need to add these extras at home because glitter and paper cut outs can be really messy! Have fun and turn in your coloring sheets by Wednesday, November 16.



**From Us to You**

**Mrs. Strube**

What a glorious fall we are having! The colorful trees and rolling hills that surround Trinity make such a lovely backdrop for learning, celebrating, and fun -- all topics we cover in this month's Panther Press.

Before our weekly staff meetings, we pray that our writing efforts will be pleasing to God and bring Him glory. Editing this month's articles -- many about the ways Trinity students appreciate their pastors, teachers, and even each other -- I have to believe the Lord is smiling. I know I am!

In our picture we are sporting our new Panther



Press tee shirts. Thanks Principal Saladin! We love the color and design!