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# THE KINGSMAN

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## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL & ECC

613 Court Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085 ▪ 269-983-3056 ▪ [www.discovertrinity.org](http://www.discovertrinity.org)



2009-2010 Theme: **“Christ is our Cornerstone” Ephesians 2:20, 21**

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January 8, 2010

### PARTNERS IN PARENTING: “Keep the End in Mind!”

From Julian Petzold, Principal

The other day I was driving past a large open field with a row of trees in the back corner. I happened to look across the field, because I saw something brown flashing occasionally across the top of the extremely deep and powdery snow. I slowed my truck considerably to find out what was happening. Suddenly, the brown was no longer visible until a squirrel stood on its hind legs to look across the top of the snow. It momentarily looked at the row of trees some 75 yards away, before putting its head back down and taking off in that direction under all the snow. I saw the squirrel do the same thing two more times before I continued on my way home. I got a good laugh out of that event, but then I thought about how smart and methodical that “little rascal” was being in his attempt to reach his destination. I then considered life and parenting in regards to looking ahead to get where you want to be in the future. Paul talked about this to the Christians in Philippi when he wrote, “*Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*” (Philippians 3:13b-14) God’s forgiveness allows us to put the past behind us and look ahead to the goal. The goal God desires for us is eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior. As parents, is that your goal for your children? Do you need to come up out of the blindness of life (deep snow for the squirrel) to refocus on where you are going in the task of parenting? Do you need to change course with habits and patterns in yourself or your children for spiritual benefits? I can’t believe I learned something valuable about staying focused on where I am headed in life and eternally from a squirrel. God has faith lessons for us all over – if we look for them!

#### Family Discussion Points

Parents – share a story with your kids about the worst snow storm you remember. How deep was it? Could you see through the blizzard?

Talk together about a goal you made and reached.

Talk together about a goal you now have, but haven’t reached yet.

Name some spiritual disciplines for your family that you will become more committed to in the future in order to keep you focused on the “prize” of eternal life (examples: worship, prayer time, Bible reading, Bible study, talking about your faith regularly, etc.)

Let me know if you have any questions regarding where you are going with this and how Trinity can be a help to you!

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### **SCHOOL NEWS**

*School information to help you stay up-to-date*

#### **Year-end gifts – Thank you!!!!**

Mr. Petzold sent a letter to every family in December about blessing Trinity Lutheran Church, School, and ECC with a special financial gift at the end of the year. You responded amazingly with gifts totaling \$7,525 to date. Every gift adds up quickly to make a huge impact. Any gifts are still welcome if you would like to contribute. They will apply for 2010 taxes at this point and cannot be applied to 2009 taxes. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed!

#### **Winter Family Retreat**

March 6-7 will be Camp Lutherhaven’s Winter Family Retreat with the theme: *Picture This!* We have sign-up material in the office, and you can learn more about this

great opportunity by calling 260-636-7101, or visiting [www.lutherhaven.org](http://www.lutherhaven.org)

#### **Coffee with the Principal**

On Thursday, January 28, at 8:10 a.m. and 5 p.m., we will meet to discuss a few important matters for the school and ECC. Two main topics will be school finances and tuition projections for 2010-11, and a program by which you could have a significant portion of your tuition returned to you in the future. Please plan to attend so you can learn what is being planned and provide Mr. Petzold with your feedback.

#### **Bible Class for students and parents**

Amy Swim will be teaching a four week Bible study, “All About Angels,” for any 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders AND their parent(s). We will meet every Tuesday from January 19 through February 9, at 6 p.m. in the Trinity Ministry Center’s second floor classroom. If you can let Mrs. Swim know you’ll attend, it would help, but you

can just show up too. We would love to see you there if it works with your schedules. Bring your Bibles!

**SCRIP – Your help is needed**

The SCRIP program decreases your tuition for the following year AND it provides some money to our Tuition Assistance Fund for families in need. In an attempt to increase involvement and support for the SCRIP program, we will be asking parents from certain grades to sell each Friday from 3 to 4 p.m. We will provide a “veteran” seller to teach new parents the process. Please volunteer to help sell by stopping by or calling the office (983-3056). Here is the schedule for February through May:

Feb.: 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades      April: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades  
Mar.: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades      May: 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades

**World record during chapel on Wednesday**

We will witness a world record being set as part of chapel on January 13. We don't want to give away any details, but Mr. Petzold did inform the students that this will be happening. All parents are invited to witness an amazing feat and apply it to our lives as God's children. This is not a lie or hoax – Mr. Petzold wanted you to know about it so you wouldn't think he's just messing with the kids (like he sometimes does ☺).

**REMINDERS**

**Hot lunch account balances**

Thank you to those who do a great job of keeping your hot lunch balances in the positive! At times, some parents do not realize that the account has fallen into the negative. Please keep an eye on your hot lunch account to keep it current. We will continue to send notices of negative balances on a regular basis, and you can check the balance any time through Fast Direct (accessible through the school's Web site at [www.DiscoverTrinity.org/school.htm](http://www.DiscoverTrinity.org/school.htm)).

However, if your hot lunch account reaches a negative balance of \$-75, your child(ren) will no longer be able to eat hot lunch until the balance is paid in full. Thanks for your understanding with this new procedure.

**Tuition payments**

Please remember that all tuition and fees are due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month (December 10 for current tuition). On the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month, a late fee of \$20 is applied to your account. If there is a balance remaining on the last day of the month, our procedure is to have that be the last day of attendance until the balance is paid in full. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Petzold at the school office (269-983-3056 x101).

**Visitors MUST sign in**

Please remember that all visitors to the school must stop in the office in order to receive a visitor badge. That includes all parents. Thank you.

**Early Childhood Center Dad's Night 2010**

The Trinity Lutheran ECC will hold its annual Dad's Night on Thursday, January 21. Preschoolers and their dads will meet in the gym from 6:30 to 8, for a night of fun and fellowship. The theme is Safari, so come dressed and ready to search for wild animals, travel to faraway places, do many activities and enjoy a delicious wild animal snack together. In the event that Dad is not able to attend, a grandfather, uncle or other special friend is welcome to participate with the child. The teachers look forward to seeing you there.

**TRINITY SPIRIT**

*Opportunities to show your Kingsman Spirit by supporting our students*

**Winter sports team photos taken January 19**

Sports pictures for boys' basketball, girls' basketball, and poms will be taken at 1p.m. on Tuesday, January 19, in the gym. Boys' basketball teams' members will need to turn in their uniforms after pictures that day.

**Girls' basketball season begins**

Girls' basketball season is here! The season runs from January through February, and 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade girls have received a schedule. Please have sport physical forms turned in as soon as possible if your daughter is participating. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Steffens at 983-3056, ext. 117, or [heather.steffens@discovertrinity.org](mailto:heather.steffens@discovertrinity.org).

**Calendar:**

Jan. 18 No school  
Jan. 28 Coffee with the Principal, 8:10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

**Lunch Menu for the week of January 11:**

Mon: Cheese pizza, corn, peaches, cookie, milk  
Tues: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, fruit cocktail, biscuits, milk  
Wed: Chicken sandwich, tater tots, peas, mandarin oranges, milk  
Thurs: Soft tacos, corn, pineapple, ice cream, milk  
Fri: Sub sandwiches, chips, baby carrots w/dip, pears, cookie, milk

*Check the lunch menu any time at the school's Web site: [www.DiscoverTrinity.org/school.html](http://www.DiscoverTrinity.org/school.html)*

**CHURCH NEWS**

*Worship information and upcoming church activities*

**Please join us for Worship**

Sundays 8:00 a.m. Service

9:15 a.m. Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Service

Mondays 6:30 p.m. Contemporary Service