

# CRUSADER NEWS

**WORDS FROM OUR ALUMNI: What does Williston Trinity Christian School mean to you?**

**From Lucas Gjovig '99:** I graduated from WTCS in its first graduating class in 1999. I am also President of a newly formed Alumni Association, which we are slowly attempting to get off the ground. If any alumni would like to get involved in a new association meant to serve fellow alumni and the school, please let me know.

Despite having graduated from WTCS nearly 20 years ago, ***WTCS's impact on my life remains evident.*** The lessons and experiences we learn from our time in school stays with us, building a foundation of identity which will be expanded upon in adulthood. I often recall lessons of hard work, integrity, civility, and community that I learned in high school, and perhaps need to be applying more often. Now, I am investing in my children by sending them to WTCS so that they can ***build a solid foundation with an education from a Christ centered community.*** The relationship my boys have with their respective preschool teachers, Ms. Cindy and Ms. Shelby, is invaluable.

I believe that it is important for Alumni, whether former students, teachers, or parents, to continue supporting WTCS. The school provides the community an alternative to the public school system that allows for access to smaller class sizes, a faith based curriculum, and a tight-knit community. ***Supporting WTCS is an investment that directly impacts not only children, but the community, and the future.*** If you would like to discuss how you can help support the school, I invite you to reach out to Principal Fleck or Terry Haugen, WTCS's Director of Development.

**From Kasey Richards '01:** Andrew and I were in WTCS's 3rd graduating class. Trinity played an integral role in the formation of our faiths, giving us a ***solid foundation to stand on in our adult lives.*** In our time at Trinity, we were able to form close relationships in our small class of 18 and are so grateful for those friends even today. We feel that a Christian education is so important, and our little community is blessed by this school. We are so thankful that Williston Trinity Christian is still alive and thriving today so that our kids can enjoy the ***Biblical teachings, nurturing staff, and family atmosphere.***

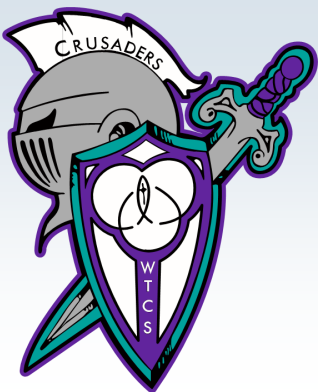
Three years ago, God drew us back to Trinity when I began subbing at the end of the school year. The kids got involved in classes and were soon asking to be at school more! Andrew became involved in coaching football/basketball and has a passion for guiding players in their faith as well as their skills. It has been a huge blessing to have WTCS partner with us in our children's education and faith journeys.

Recently, we were entrusted with a precious little two-year-old girl from the Philippines named Marian whom we are in the process of adopting. She is an incredibly joyful little girl who has brightened our lives in countless ways. We are excited for her to be joining the Trinity family. ***WTCS has a culturally rich tapestry,*** and we feel there couldn't be a better place for Marian to attend school. God has been so faithful and purposeful in his plan for our family. His plan is perfect, and we have seen so many miracles along the journey.

*"In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will."*  
-Ephesians 1:5

**From Hannah Sax '15:** I graduated from Trinity in 2015. I spent a year at Williston State College and then transferred to Montana State University in Bozeman. I have been pursuing a Degree in Elementary Education with a Minor in K-12 Reading. I am finishing my few classes for the semester and then will be returning to Trinity for the spring to student teach in second grade with Mrs.Opsal!

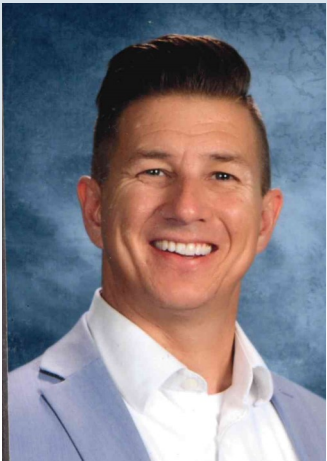
Going to school at Trinity was such a blessing growing up. I started attending Trinity in 5th grade and remained there until graduation. ***Trinity will always be a place where I feel at home.*** There is something comforting about being back in the building that I can't really describe. That is why I am so excited to be student teaching there! ***I had teachers at Trinity who had a huge impact on my life and my Christian walk.***



**Cory Fleck—Superintendent/Principal**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We have so much to be thankful for at Williston Trinity Christian School. We appreciate all the families, the teachers, and staff, and all the blessings that each of you have given the school this year. We thank you for making our school a place where families can be families, a home away from home, and a destination of love, learning, and putting Christ first in our lives.

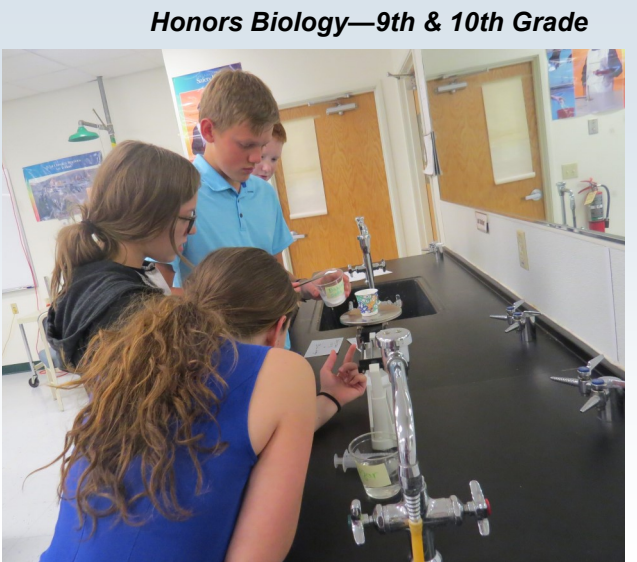


As a school, we have come far in the past 26 years. We have had many families, students, and staff members who have come through the halls of this school. Most of those know what it means to be a part of something special for Him above during their season here. We have been blessed to keep the wonderful option for families to have a Christian Education in this region. God wants this place to continue to be a light in the community. We are looking to thrive in the coming years and continue to be a place of excellence for Christ.

Williston Trinity Christian School receives zero federal or state funds. We charge approximately 60% of the total cost of educating each student. We look continue to build relationships with the Alumni, Supporters, and Churches. We know we are producing future Kingdom leaders in the congregations around the region and nation. The impact and influence of these leaders will be monumental for the direction of our nation in the years to come.

We have raised the level of expectation and excellence where our academics are concerned. We are in our second year with Honors Classes and the Cru Honors Institute. We continue to have Advanced Placement classes, and we have a high percentage of teachers with their master's degree. We have teachers and staff who care and put their spirit of excellence in everything they do. We are a top tier institution for academics. This also includes biblical studies, math and science education, music education, physical education, computer science, and the language arts. We also have internships for students who advance in their high school careers.

The world language program at WTCS is thriving! We are fortunate to offer Spanish in ALL grades from K-12. Mrs. Lorena Haugen teaches our younger learners and Mrs. Laura Abuhl teaches grades 6-12. Spanish is taught in a fun and engaging way and they share an exciting and colorful classroom.



We pray that this next year will be a year that brings the best out in you and your family. We pray that health and abundance will come your way. We pray that you will prosper, increase in wisdom and peace in the name of Jesus Christ.

God Bless you and your family,

Cory Fleck  
Superintendent/Principal  
Williston Trinity Christian School



## La Lynda Blotsky—Vice Principal/Activities Director

Vice Principal Mrs. Blotsky answers some frequently asked questions regarding Williston Trinity Christian School.

1. *How can elementary parents help their students for school at home?*

One of the ways that elementary parents can truly help their students at home is to **read aloud with them**. According to the National Education Association, reading aloud to children is not only one of the best activities to stimulate language and cognitive skills; it also builds motivation, curiosity, and memory. Another way to help your child at home is to **access the online learning program** that we offer at WTCS. Study Island supports student learning in kindergarten through grade 12. Through this online learning technology students are able to master grade-level skills in a fun and engaging manner. Study Island promotes learning in math, reading, writing, science, and social studies with interactive games that reinforce and reward learning achievement. If you are interested in using Study Island at home, please contact the front office.

2. *What is dual credit?*

Dual credit gives students the opportunity to **earn both high school credit and college credit for course work**. Many of these opportunities are done online with Williston State College, but we also offer on-campus opportunities at WTCS. On-campus at WTCS students can earn dual-credit in Chemistry and Spanish. Mrs. Laura Abuhl and Mrs. Melissa Corneliusen are two teachers on our campus who have their master degrees in their respective areas.

3. *Why does WTCS have a different grading scale than most schools?*

**WTCS strives for academic excellence.** One of the ways we do this is with a higher grading scale for students in grades 4-12. At WTCS an 'A' is valued at a 100-94%, a 'B' is 93%-87%, a 'C' is 86%-78%, a 'D' is 77%-70%, and an 'F' is 69%-0%. At WTCS we believe that by having our students reaching for higher grade expectations they are more readily prepared for a collegiate grading scale. Often time in a collegiate institution the grade scale is 90%-100% for an 'A'. This is something that students from WTCS are able to adequately reach if they have been an 'A'-'B' student at WTCS.

4. *How do we support our students as they leave WTCS?*

We greatly value our Alumni. **WTCS is always home for our students.** We always encourage our students to 'come back home' to visit us and we are always open about staying in contact with our past students. I have had students many times calls for recommendations, encouragement, scholarship help, and even the occasional proof reading of an assignment. We are family at WTCS-family is forever.

5. *What does one school, one building, one family mean?*

The culture at WTCS is unmatched. We are truly a family. We house students in pre-school through grade 12 at WTCS. This allows us to be a 'one-stop shop for education' You can come to us and all of your children, who are school aged, can be under the same roof. This allows us to get to know our students and our families in a way that **allows us to invest in not only your child's education, but their life.**

As Vice Principal at WTCS I am honored and proud to witness the growth of each of our students, every single day, not just growth academically, but spiritually. We are raising up disciples of Christ. Our students are truly gifts from above, and their time at WTCS is invaluable. At WTCS we are sowing seeds that have not yet become fruit, and the beautiful fruit that will come from each seed we sow will be unsurmountable. Thank you for allowing me another year to grow, learn, and lead our amazing Crusader staff, students, and families.

-LaLynda Blotsky, Vice Principal



## Pastor Adam Coughlin—Campus Pastor



For the first time in a number of years, Williston Trinity Christian School has a Campus Pastor. Pastor Adam Coughlin was hired before school began in the fall of 2018.

### **Role of the Campus Pastor**

**Coordinate Chapel:** I speak once a month for chapel. I bring in guest speakers for the remaining chapel services. At Trinity we are a school made up of over a dozen denominations, so I feel it is important to bring in different speakers to keep it fresh. This year I have had different staff members, community youth leaders, pastors, and Trinity alumni come in and speak for chapel. I also try and help Mrs. Johnson with K-5<sup>th</sup> grade chapel on Tuesday afternoons.

**Service Projects:** Earlier this year dozens of families were affected by an apartment fire in our community. We had a free will dinner and a movie night with all of the proceeds to go to the families affected. With the leadership of awesome student council we have been able to help families in need within the community by serving food for the G.I.F.T. program at Faith United Methodist on Saturday nights.

**Counseling:** My favorite part of the job is helping the students with whatever issues they may be facing from a biblical approach. It's amazing to see them use the Word as an instruction manual for life, not just as a story book.

**Extra Curricular:** I never thought I would/could care about sports, like girls volleyball, but as the season went on I got to know the girls, and their coaches, and became a rabid fan. I am so excited for the upcoming boys/girls basketball season and to support them, their families, and their competitors on an enjoyable season.

I have only been here for four months, but I have been truly blessed to have the most fun job imaginable. I have already made lifelong friends, and look forward to what the Lord has in store for us.

-Pastor Adam

### **Strings with Mr. Meriel Lora (grades 5-12)**



### **2nd Grade with Mrs. Opsal**



### **Small Class Sizes & Individual Learning**



### **ONE Family ONE School ONE Building**





## 2018-2019 WTCS

Bible verse:

Micah 7:11

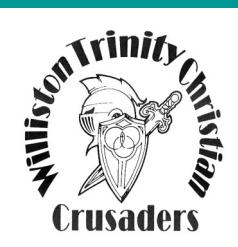
*“The day for building  
your walls will come,  
the day for extending  
your boundaries.”*



### Terry Haugen - Director of Development

During the last couple of weeks in October and the first week of November, I visited China on behalf of Williston Trinity Christian School. The purpose of my trip was to continue and build on the relationships that Administrators Cory Fleck and LaLynda Blotsky established during their previous trips to China. WTCS continues to pray and explore the opportunity to develop an International Outreach Program to bring foreign students here to our campus and to eventually send our own students and teachers abroad to continue their education and share the Word of God throughout the world.

With that in mind, I visited Christian Schools and Churches in Beijing, Xuzhou, Huaian, Xiangshui, Suzhou, and Shanghai. This trip was amazing! I was able to experience China, its' cities, its' countryside, and most importantly its' people!! What I found was a country filled with millions and millions of people who are yearning to hear the word of Christ; parents who want to educate their children in a Christian environment, and children who are curious about life at Williston Trinity Christian School! I met with administrators, teachers, parents, and students from nine different schools and three churches. I climbed the Great Wall of China, swam in the Yangzi River (IT WAS COLD!), played basketball with the alleged Chinese Olympic Basketball Team, and played ping pong with some of the finest pong players in the world! It was truly a trip of a lifetime! Our Chinese brothers and sisters requested that we pray for them as they will be praying for us here at Williston Trinity Christian School!!!



*Williston Trinity  
Christian School  
strives to assist  
parents in providing  
an education that  
encourages  
academic excellence  
and social  
responsibility  
taught in a  
Biblically-based  
Christian context.*

## ALUMNI

We invite all of the Williston Trinity Christian School alumni to stay connected! Alumni are encouraged to submit their contact information to WTCS so they can be added to the Alumni Directory. This will help us keep you informed about events, and it will also help alumni stay connected with classmates. We would love to hear an update about your journey after graduation. Email us your story!

WTCS Alumni are also encouraged to attend campus events such as athletic games, plays, concerts, homecoming, or any other events at WTCS. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the school at 701-774-9056 or email [information@wtcsnd.org](mailto:information@wtcsnd.org). Thank you! Go CRU!

## End of the Year Giving 2018

Now that the Thanksgiving Holiday is behind us, we turn our thoughts to Christmas, family, and the soon approaching New Year. As we get bombarded with commercials for the latest toy, the newest cell phones, or that unique gift idea, we encourage you to not lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas, THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST CHILD!

Part of the end of the year involves talking about what organizations and causes we want to support through year-end tax-deductible contributions. ***The teachers, staff, and students here at Williston Trinity Christian School would hope and pray that you would consider our school as part of your year-end giving.***

WTCS is funded by tuition from our student's families (which contributes to about sixty percent of the cost to educate each student) and by the generosity of donors, like you, who help to keep our tuition as low as possible to all students, Preschool through Grade 12.

WTCS also doesn't receive government supported funds (even indirectly through loans, etc.), which allows us to remain truly independent. Because of this, we can talk about God, Christian values, and live out our faith every day.

***We hope you will make a tax-deductible donation today to help produce and promote young Christian leaders of tomorrow.*** Your gift not only helps WTCS cover tuition and costs, it will also help us continue to offer the highest quality Christian Education to the youth of the Williston area. More than 260 students have already graduated from WTCS since 1999. Your support will help us reach and teach even more of our area youth this year and into the future.

Our current students and our Alumni never take for granted how they have been blessed with the love and sacrifice of our donors. Your donation makes possible the opportunity for over two hundred and seventy-five current students to receive an excellent academic education, taught in a Biblically based Christian environment. It is said best by our students: "It feels good to know that people care about you!"

God bless you and your loved ones at this special time of year. We are praying that you have a safe, happy, and blessed Christmas. Thank you for caring and praying, now and always.

God's Blessings,

Terry Haugen  
Director of Development  
[thaugen@wtcsnd.org](mailto:thaugen@wtcsnd.org)  
701-651-9376

Cory Fleck  
Superintendent/Principal  
[cfleck@wtcsnd.org](mailto:cfleck@wtcsnd.org)  
701-770-5131

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,  
good will toward men."

*Luke 2:14*



YES! I want to help WTCS's Students and enable WTCS to educate and produce even more Christian Leaders for tomorrow!!!

\_\_\_\_\_ Your gift of \$30,000 will help 6 deserving students attend WTCS.

\_\_\_\_\_ Your gift of \$15,000 will help 3 deserving students attend WTCS.

\_\_\_\_\_ Your gift of \$5,000 will help 1 deserving student attend WTCS.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to give a one time gift of:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$500      \_\_\_\_\_ \$100

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to make a monthly donation of:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40/month      \_\_\_\_\_ \$20/month      \_\_\_\_\_ \$10/month

\_\_\_\_\_ Other. Your gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ will help support Williston Trinity Christian School.

**We appreciate your efforts to join us in reaching this generation of young people.**

Please make your tax-deductible donations, as allowed by law, to: WILLISTON TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



WTCS is able to accept donations of any type: cash, checks, money order or credit cards (Visa Master-Card, Discover).

- Feel free to **mail in a donation** to:  
Williston Trinity Christian School  
Attention: End of Year Giving  
2419 9 Ave West  
Williston ND 58801
- If you would rather **donate in person**, office hours are Monday-Friday from 7:45am until 4:30pm when school resumes on Thursday, January 3rd.
- You are also able to **donate online at [www.wtcsnd.org](http://www.wtcsnd.org)**. Simply click "DONATE" in the upper right hand corner. When prompted for a student ID, enter "donation".

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Williston Trinity Christian School  
2419—9th Ave West  
Williston, ND 58801

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Fri., December 21 – Wed., January 2 **NO SCHOOL, Christmas Break**
- Thursday, January 3 **School Resumes.**
- Saturday, January 5 **Basketball @ HOME** vs. Beach. JH Girls 11:00am; JV Boys 12:00pm; Varsity Girls 1:30pm; Varsity Boys 3:00pm.
- Saturday, January 5 **Alumni Basketball Game @ WTCS, 5:00pm.** Open to any WTCS alumni! Contact Terry Haugen, Director of Development @ 701-651-9376 or [thaugen@wtcsnd.org](mailto:thaugen@wtcsnd.org) to let us know you are interested in playing!
- Saturday, January 12 **FIRST LEGO League** Qualifying Tournament in Minot.
- Sun., January 20-Sat., January 26 **National School Choice Week**
- Monday, January 21 **No School**
- Monday, January 21 **WTCS Board Meeting**, 6:30pm in the chapel. Parents are welcome to attend.

*Merry* From all of us at Williston Trinity Christian School  
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY *New Year*

Contact Us

WTCS  
2419—9th Ave West  
Williston, ND 58801

(701) 774-9056

[information@wtcsnd.org](mailto:information@wtcsnd.org)

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