

Trinity Times

"Our times are in Your hands."



Years in the Making

Chanelle Spivak

I interviewed some of the seniors for their advice on friendship. Hopefully their words are helpful.

How have the relationships within your class changed throughout the years?

I have grown closer with everyone in some respects, but I only expect to stay in close contact with a few people. As graduation looms closer and closer, I have been forced to determine who actually cares about me and is worth keeping up with. ~Ethan

What are some of the best memories with your class?

Way back in 3rd grade, one of us found a robin egg shell outside at recess. That sparked a good month or so of us spending all of our recesses looking for nests in the surrounding trees. We named ourselves the "Bird Brains Secret Sisters" and brought binoculars to school. ~Ali

Have you and your classmates always been close friends? If not, how have you become better friends over the years?

We've always gotten along well, but it wasn't until 9th/10th grade that we really "clicked". Plus, all of the camps, garage sales, and other senior year stuff has helped. And we've definitely bonded over the fact that we're always exhausted and sleep deprived. ~Ali

Ethan and I have grown closer through our mutual enjoyment of peer parodies. ~Greg

Do you have advice to give to younger classes to help with awkwardness and "cooties"?

Don't use cooties as an excuse to not admit you like someone. Love is a good thing. ~Greg

Be honest and never be afraid to tell someone your true feelings, because shame and rejection are temporary, but regret can last a lifetime. Don't just bottle everything up. ~Ethan

Merits of Singleness

Ethan Hastings and Jurgen Lipps

Valentine's Day has come and gone, and you're still single. Well, if you're upset that you aren't in a relationship, don't despair!

Singleness is actually a sign of self confidence and independence, allowing an individual proper time to pursue their own personal interests and goals.

The apostle Paul actually praises singleness in 1 Corinthians 7:8. He says that being single can be preferable. While you are still young and single, you have the opportunity to strengthen your relationship with God and devotion to Him, before getting involved with someone romantically.

Jesus' perfect life and earthly ministry are a model for Christians, Jesus was celibate during this time. Romantic love is not necessary in living a fulfilled, godly life.

Just remember that it's fine to not be in a relationship on Valentine's Day (and probably less expensive), despite what culture tells you. Happy Singles' Day, everyone!

From the Secret Files of Mr. H

by Danny Champagne

Everyone at TCS knows and loves Mr. Holcomb, the Administrative Director of our school. This past October, we all found out something that probably no one knew before: Mr. Holcomb is a former basketball champion who had walls full of trophies from all the games and contests that he won! This stunning, little known fact that shocked the school left a nagging question in the back of everyone's mind: what else has Mr. H been hiding from us? To the great surprise of everybody, he broke the news a few months ago that he is actually a renowned performer who tours around the world! He is part of a gospel bluegrass band called Sunrise Mountain Revival, which recently toured in several



cities in Germany.

Turns out this was not even the first time that he has gone on tour. He also went five years ago to Berlin, Germany, in addition to touring extensively around the mid-Atlantic region. Their goal as a band is to share the gospel and to encourage all of their hearers in their faith and their Christian walk.

In their ten days spent in Germany, they performed nine concerts in addition to events at public schools and in public

places like subways and bus stations. They had a strong crowd, which was a good way to spread the message that they were intending to spread to people who do not know God. They also met local pastors while they were there and were able to encourage them greatly.

The work the band did there was very important, and we have to make sure that we are praying for them in their worldwide endeavors. The future is bright for Sunrise Mountain Revival: they are opening new avenues for Christian music in America, and this change is being brought about by our very own Mr. H.

Disclaimer: This article is filled to the brim with hyperbole.

On the Oversaturation of Europe by Migrants

Jurgen Lipps

Despite being a century removed from the heights of Imperialism, Western society and culture has gotten really good at taking the moral high ground and making other people's problems our own. A perfect example of this, more relevant to Europe than to the United States, is the migrant crisis which we've tactfully brought upon ourselves. Our need to stand out as moral examples to the rest of the world has yet again got us into another situation which we can't seem to get out of.

Perhaps one of the most obvious and dangerous examples of where good intentions can go horribly wrong is Germany. Last year, more than one million asylum seekers arrived in Germany, most of them young Muslim men. Chancellor of Germany, Angela Merkel doesn't even view this as a problem, despite Germany's history of anti-semitism.

Multiculturalism is and has been failing in Europe, but for fear of criticism from the hyper sensitive left, Merkel refuses to back down on her open door policy, despite disapproval from numerous other European politicians.

Famously censored by many liberal media sources, this past New Years in Cologne was a nightmare. Estimates show that there were rampant sexual assaults and muggings by 500-1000 asylum seekers. These attacks were not random, but rather premeditated and engineered by several large groups of migrants. German law officials compared their actions to those of an experienced pickpocket in a large city. In addition to this, many of you are probably aware that numerous recent terrorist attacks, namely the Paris attack in November last year, were committed by immigrants. Those willing to realistically look at the problem would make the clear and obvious connection between migrants and social unrest and religious dissention.

The entire purpose of asylum and granting migrants the right to remain in a country is to keep them safe until the conditions in their country of origin are fit for their return. For purposes of temporary relocation, it should be obvious that the most efficient, safe, and reasonable option would be to relocate asylum seekers to a close, nearby nation with a relatively similar culture. This

would make for the smoothest possible assimilation of migrants into nearby, similar cultures. However, the five most able and safe nations in the surrounding area, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, and Bahrain have refused to accept even one single refugee. This is because they realize that the cultural differences between fleeing, terrified refugees and the rich, proud millionaires who inhabit these countries are too substantial. Despite this, the United States, richer than Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, believes itself to be morally responsible for the lives of the migrants it refuses to accept. This is because Americans consider themselves ultimately responsible for the refugees' predicament.

Most sympathetic leftists don't realize the harm that they are doing to Americans by "helping" refugees and inviting them into a country where they have nothing in common with the natives, where they will soak up jobs, assimilate poorly into a very different culture, and create unrest amongst citizens. The US should learn from Germany's plight before we make the same deadly mistake.

Testing...Testing 101

Joseph Gustav Boch

The midterms are now behind us this year and students are either recovering smoothly or falling into a deeper state of depression. Ethan Hastings (12th) and Stephen Frank (7th) are feeling "pretty chill" about their grades and we are praying for them as they prepare for finals (or in Ethan's case, college).

Other students struggled with the exams a little more such as Caleb Schaffer (8th) who, in answer to the question "How did they go?" said unenthusiastically, "Mediumly challenging."

Another student who might need a hug is Mark Bova (9th). Before the tests Mark felt reasonably scared, but after the tests Mark felt very scared and was in a state of horror. I thought he was overreacting, but then he told me how he studied. He made the mistake of studying the night before, only. May Mark's experiences be a lesson to us all. Jim Batista (9th) was a much more serious case. In answer to my question, "How did you feel before the exams?" he stated, "I abandoned all hope." After the tests he said, "I feel even more depressed because finals are up ahead."

An important lesson that we can draw from Jim Batista is don't worry about the tests that are later in the year and take time to enjoy the silence. I am happy to say that now Jim lives his life peacefully and is on the road to recovery. Let us all strive to be studious and work ahead before and during finals.

Enter to Win

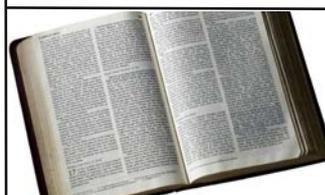
Kelly Reid and Grace Markowicz

POETRY OUT LOUD This past month, our school participated in the POL contest. Though grades nine and ten both participated, only nine contestants advanced to the next round. They all performed well, but in the end we congratulate our finalist Ali Champagne and our runner-up Gabrielle Martone. Ali moved on to the next round, which was held at Drew University on February 12.

Congratulations to Stephen Markowicz, the reigning champion over all of chess club. We look forward to next year where the fellow contestants who participated, but alas could not prevail in strategic maneuvers, can have a second chance at victory.



Bible Contest



This year the competitors are back and better than ever! They are Jamal K. and David C. from third; Joey .F and Faith D. from fourth; Sammy C. and Ethan G. from fifth; Anna and Sarah F from sixth; Steven C. and David Z. from seventh; and lastly Matt F. and Faith C. from eighth! The contest will take place on February 24 at Hawthorne Christian Academy.

Blazer Broadcast: January Madness

Kyle J. Eliassen, Esq.

Junior High Girls and Boys

Junior High basketball has had quite a rollercoaster ride this year. The girls have had to rebuild this year as many of their players have graduated to varsity. Nonetheless, their record of 1-8 doesn't reflect on how well they've played over the course of the year. Their signature, and currently only win, came in the first real game in our new gym. The girls showed fight as they came back from a double-digit deficit to win at the end, defeating Harmony. The boys have had a strong season even though their older players have moved to varsity as well, posting a very impressive 9-3 record so far. Their signature win this season was against number one ranked Abundant Life Nutley. They fought to the very end and pulled off the upset to gain the number one seed for the upcoming tournament. Speaking of, the tournament is coming up for the junior high, so make sure you make it to Parsippany Christian and cheer the Trailblazers to victory!

Varsity Girls and Boys

Varsity basketball hasn't failed to please the fans this year. The girls have exceeded all expectations this season and have dominated the league so far. Even though a very talented senior class left for college, the girls have been able to post an impressive record of 21-5 this year. Their signature win from this year was against Morris Tech. Coach Zazopoulos said about the win, "It was great team defense... that secured the win." The boys haven't had the success they have wanted, with a record of 6-12, but they've had a good season nonetheless. Their signature win of the season was one of their first against Abundant Life Nutley. The fans were treated to some extra basketball as 32 minutes couldn't do it. The boys played great in overtime and defeated their foes. This year, the tournament is coming to the Trinity gym, so you should come out and cheer on the teams, and then you can say you were at the first tournament hosted by Trinity in history.



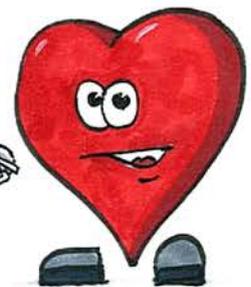
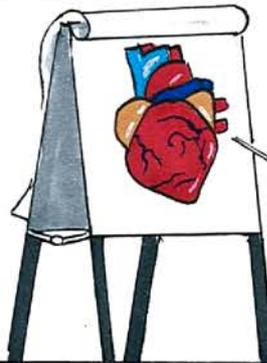
Heart to Heart

William Martone

Hi, my name is Artur Ree and I am a heart



As you can tell, I'm not like the organ in the slightest



In fact, I was created for a commercial holiday called Valentines Day devised by companies wanting to boost their 1st quarter revenues



Hey Steve! How did the date go?



She brake my heart...



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Nickels for Noah

Ethan Hastings

One Christian virtue found all throughout Scripture is charity. As a Bible-believing school, we must strive to show Christian charity and love to all. In Luke 10, Jesus cited the commandment "Love thy neighbor." When asked, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied using a parable: the Good Samaritan. In this story, the only person that would help a Jewish man beaten half to death was a Samaritan, a man who had no good reason to help him. Jesus is reiterating what he commanded in Matthew 5:44. "Love thy enemy."

If we are to show mercy and love to everyone, even our enemies, we must be even more ready and willing to help brothers and sisters in Christ in need. In Galatians 6:10 (ESV), Paul states, "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Please donate to the Nickels for Noah fundraising campaign.



Pray without Ceasing

Pastor Chanski

1 Thessalonians 5:17 is one of the shortest verses in the Bible. It says, "Pray without ceasing." The verse may be short, but what it says is important. But how do you pray without ceasing? It might be nice to pray every minute of the day, but sometimes we need to do math problems, eat, or sleep. It's best to understand these words to mean that we should pray every day and never give up. In Luke 18:1, we read that "Jesus spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart." Then he told a parable about a woman who kept coming to a judge day after day. She wasn't in his court every moment; but she came back again and again.

So, it's not just that your parents or pastors tell you that you need to pray every day. Jesus says it, and Paul says it. God wants us to pray daily—not just when we're in church once or twice a week. As Jesus said in Matthew 6:6, "you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." Daily prayer is a matter of obedience to Jesus Christ.

Also, the Bible teaches that praying regularly is a mark of a true Christian. Just because you pray, it doesn't mean you are a genuine Christian; but if you don't pray, you're probably not a Christian. In Psalm 14:4, it says that wicked people "do not call on the Lord." That means that they don't pray. But Christians do pray.

Here's one more reason to pray daily: Jesus did. The Bible tells us He would get up very early to pray (Mark 1:35) and that He often got alone with God to pray (Luke 5:16). If we're going to follow Jesus, we need to imitate Him. And one very important way we do that is by praying.

As a TCS student, your life is very busy. But your life will only get busier as you get older. Make sure that, if you haven't already done so, you start the habit of daily prayer now.

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." --Philippians 4:6,7

Bringin' It to Blaze

Alison Champagne and Chanelle Spivak

As usual, we enjoyed reading the many responses from this edition's survey. Here are some of our favorites:

What is your favorite thing about Valentine's Day?

- "Discount chocolate"
- "I get to sit alone with ice cream on my couch"
- "My dad buys me a present"

What's your favorite candy?

Twix was our most common response, but Swedish Fish, Sour Patch Kids, and Snickers were also popular. Thanks to Valentine's Day, there's a lot of candy on sale right now!

If you could create a Valentine-themed Starbucks drink, what would you make?

- "Pink Surprise Frappuccino"
- "Give-It-a-Heart Mocha Supreme"
- "Value-tine Sip"
- "The Love Potion"

Questions for Blaze:

If we don't have a snow day, can we ask for a rain day?

If you remember back to Hurricane Irene in 2011, the whole first week of school was cancelled due to rain and the subsequent flooding. But as there are no hurricanes currently in our forecast, this does not seem likely. It would never hurt to petition, though!

Is there going to be a snack stand anytime soon?

Yes there is! The Student Council is working on the finishing touches, so be on the lookout for one coming soon.

Prayer Requests

- For God's continued upholding of the Martin family
- For the basketball teams to finish up the season well

The Newspaper team wants to thank to Karen, Hannah, and Elizabeth Canales, and Audrey Mills for participating in our Science Fair Quiz from last month's edition. And a special congratulations to Audrey for submitting a perfect score!

**Please send all contributions to newspaper.trinity@gmail.com.
Thank you!**