

The New Trinity Times

- TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL -

APRIL 2024

Lombard, Illinois



KENTUCKY BOUND...AND BACK

by Angelina Iverson, Aidan Harrison, and Sophia Garcia

On April 8, Mr. Baerenklau and his 7th and 8th grade class left for a three day road trip to Kentucky (along with Pastor Wagner, some parents and family members). The first thing we did was watch the solar eclipse, stopping to do so in Whitestown, Indiana. A total solar eclipse happens when the moon goes in front of the sun and projects a shadow on the earth.

Once everyone arrived, we ate together at Golden Corral where the macaroni and cheese was heavenly.

Our first full day in Kentucky began with a visit to Fort Knox and the General George Patton Museum of

Leadership, which honored legendary General George S. Patton, Jr. The museum showcased a lot of Patton's war and Army memorabilia. Later that day we went to Mammoth Cave. It was a two hour walk into the underground caverns, but it was definitely worth it. There were some areas in which people had to duck down or be extra cautious, but it was all fun in the end. (And when the lights were all turned off it was completely and totally dark.)

On our last day we toured the Louisville Slugger Factory. When we got there we took a tour and saw how these classic baseball bats were made. After the tour we went into the vault and saw over three thousand bats. Some of us went to the batting cages and tried to hit pitches. We viewed movie of baseball history highlights and then left for the Creation Museum, where we took in displays that showcase the Christian understanding of how the earth was created by God's hand.

[\[more class trip photos on next page\]](#)

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL TONIGHT

- April 23: Trinity Lutheran School Fine Arts Festival, 6:30 p.m.
- April 25 - Dress Like Someone Else Day
- April 28: Students Sing in church Service, 9 a.m.
- April 30: Hot Lunch - Mostaccioli
- May 7: Hot Lunch - Pizza
- May 14: Hot Lunch - Mac ' n' Cheese
- May 21: Hot Lunch - Hot Dog

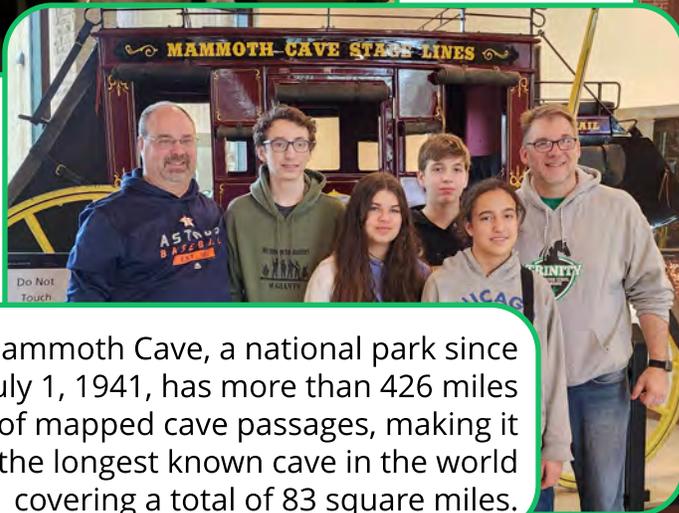
UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 23: PreSchool Year End Party at Westmore Woods Playground, 8:15-11 a.m.
- May 23 - 8th grade graduation
- May 24 - Last Day of School, 8:30 a.m. closing chapel, 11:30 a.m. dismissal

The New Trinity Times is a monthly newsletter created by Trinity's 5th through 8th grade Journalism students.

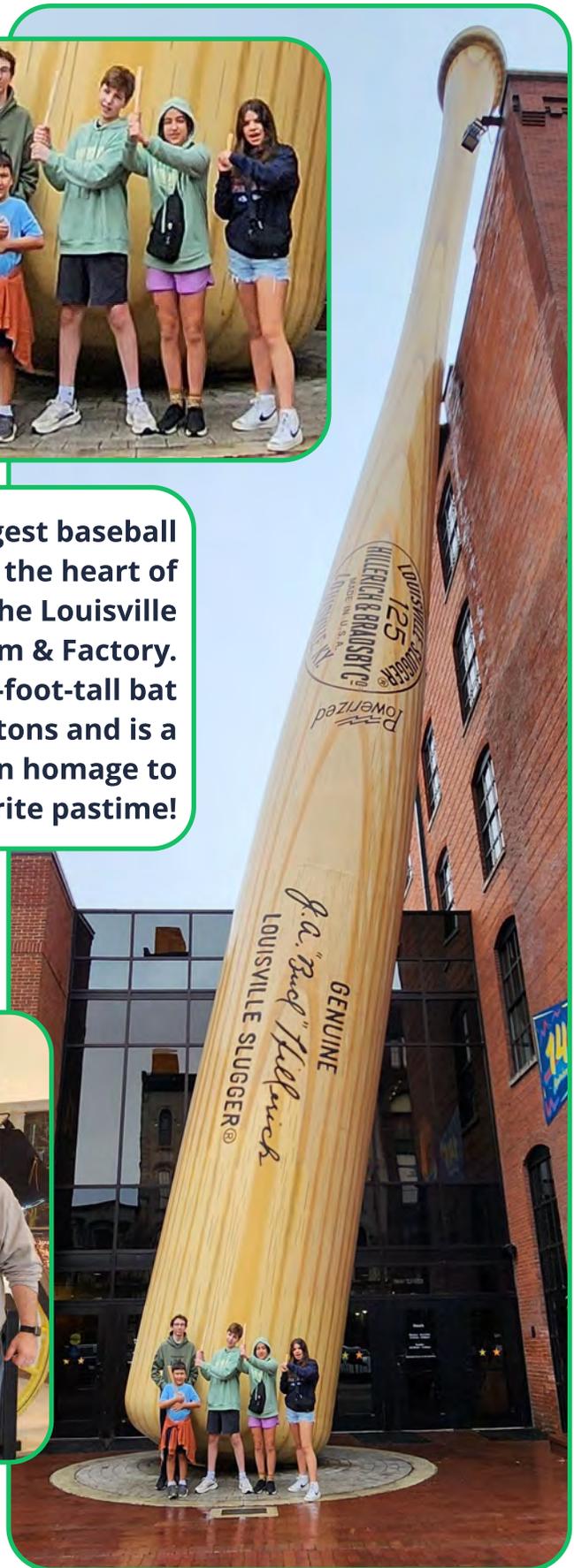


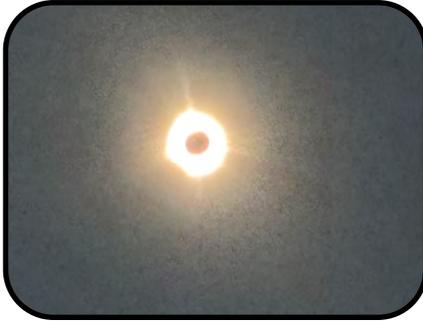
The world's largest baseball bat is located in the heart of Louisville, at the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory. The 120-foot-tall bat weights 34 tons and is a herculean homage to America's favorite pastime!



Mammoth Cave, a national park since July 1, 1941, has more than 426 miles of mapped cave passages, making it the longest known cave in the world covering a total of 83 square miles.

[more class trip photos on the next two pages and the back page]





APRIL 8 SOLAR ECLIPSE

by Abigail Pilny and Sophia Garcia

This crazy event is called a solar eclipse, and this photo (*right*) is called a total eclipse. A solar eclipse happens when the moon covers the sun's light. The solar eclipse that we saw was about 92% covered. Some of the classes



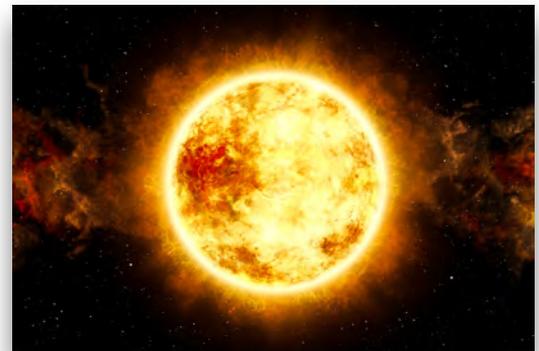
like us, watched the solar eclipse live, as it went across the country. A total solar eclipse is a rare event that is only visible every 20 years or so. Why doesn't this happen very month, when the moon is at its new moon stage? Well, it's hard to calculate everything, but the solar eclipse only happens in certain areas of the world, where the sun has direct sunlight and the moon blocks it. When the solar eclipse happens you **MUST** wear glasses. Not just any glasses, but solar eclipse glasses. The ones we used were NASA approved. If you look at the eclipse without them, you could go blind or damage your eyes, and nobody wants that to happen. These solar eclipses are very rare, and if you see a total eclipse, you are lucky! Now, you can start planning your next eclipse. You have about 20 years to plan, so you should be ready!



The Sun

by Damian Gomez

When we look up in the sky, we see a big ball of light which is called the sun. The sun is an orange ball of fiery hot gases - a massive ball of



exploding gas. Inside the sun, tiny particles - called atoms - of hydrogen gas join together to form another gas creating nuclear fusion. This gives off huge amounts of heat and light from the sun, which the Earth orbits around. Without the sun, life on earth could not exist. The sun measures about 1.4 million kilometers across on the inside.

Trinity's traveling 7th & 8th grade class and their companions got a decent view of the total eclipse while in Indiana (above left).

Dinosaurs and Their Fossils

by Roscoe Barnett

Dinosaurs have long captured the imagination of people of all ages. These prehistoric creatures roamed the Earth a long time ago, some scientists say millions of years ago*, ruling the land with their incredible size, strength, and unique features. While we may never get to see dinosaurs walking the Earth again, their fossils serve as a reminder of just how awe-inspiring these creatures were.

Fossils are the remains of once-living organisms that have been preserved in rocks or other materials over time. For dinosaurs, fossils provide scientists with valuable information about their biology, behavior, and evolution. By studying dinosaur fossils, researchers have been able to learn a great deal about these ancient creatures, including what they looked like, how they moved, and even what they might have sounded like.



One of the most common types of dinosaur fossils are bones. These fossils can range in size from tiny fragments to massive skeletons that have been preserved in their entirety. By studying the structure of dinosaur bones, scientists can learn about the animal's size, shape, and mobility. Additionally, bones can provide valuable information about how dinosaurs evolved over time and how they were related to other species.

In addition to bones, dinosaur fossils can also include teeth, shells, and even footprints. Each type of fossil provides unique insights into the lives of dinosaurs and helps to paint a more complete picture of what these creatures were like. For example, footprints can tell researchers about how dinosaurs moved and interacted with their environment, while teeth can provide information about their diet and hunting behavior.

Dinosaur fossils are not only valuable for scientific research, but also for educating the public about these incredible creatures. Museums around the world display dinosaur fossils to inspire wonder and curiosity in visitors of all ages. Seeing the massive bones of a Tyrannosaurus Rex or the delicate imprint of a Velociraptor footprint can spark the imagination and ignite a passion for learning about the natural world.

While dinosaurs may have gone extinct millions of years ago, their fossils continue to captivate us today. These relics of the past provide a window into a time when Earth was dominated by giant reptiles and offer valuable insights into the history of life on our planet. By studying dinosaur fossils, we can continue to uncover the mysteries of these incredible creatures and gain a deeper appreciation for the world in which we live.



***Biblical creationists support the view that dinosaurs, created by God, lived 6,000 years ago and coexisted with humankind on Earth. Read more about the evidence for this teaching at <https://answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/>. Displays reinforcing this teaching can be found at the Creation Museum, in Petersburg, Kentucky, recently visited by Trinity's 7th and 8th grade class (left). Learn more at <https://creationmuseum.org>.**

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL by Ariana Mehrazar



What is the Fine Arts Festival, you may ask? In the words of Miss Rose, "It is an event where we celebrate all of the musical and creative talents from the students of Trinity."



The Fine Arts Festival is on April 23, and all are invited to arrive at Trinity Lutheran School at 6:30 p.m. Artwork by Trinity's students will be on display at the festival, held in the gym.

Enjoy the musical and artistic talents of Trinity Lutheran School students, as Trinity's band, piano, and choir perform. The choir program will feature the songs, "Listen, God is Calling," and "Who You Say I Am," and others.



After time to enjoy your students' art and musical presentation, ice cream sundaes will be served. We hope you will be able to participate in this special event, and look forward to seeing you all. And to the students of Trinity Lutheran School - you will do a wonderful job!



Meet Mrs. Allor by Arian Gomez



Q: How long have you taught at Trinity?

A: 6 years

Q: What other schools have you worked at?

A: St. Paul Lutheran School in Oak Lawn

Q: What's your hometown?

A: Port Washington, Wisconsin

Q: What school did you graduate from?

A: Concordia University in River Forest

Q: What's your favorite Bible verse?

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." *Isaiah 43:2*

Q: What's your favorite movie?

A: Any movie by Walt Disney

Q: What's your favorite tv show?

A: *The Good Doctor*

Q: What's your favorite book?

A: *Sherlock Homes*

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: Steak

Q: What's your favorite restaurant?

A: Wondergood or Portillo's

Q: What's your favorite vacation spot?

A: Cape Cod

Q: Who is your favorite historical person?

A: Abraham Lincoln

Q: What's your favorite quote?

A: Whatever you do, do it well

Q: Do you prefer cats or dogs?

A: Dogs

Q: Are you a morning or a night person?

A: Morning person

Q: Do you prefer coffee or tea?

A: Tea

Q: What's your favorite word?

A: God

Q: What's your favorite class subject?

A: Reading

Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: Walk, play pickle ball, visit friends

Q: What's your favorite color?

A: Green

Q: What's your dream car?

A: Chevy Tahoe

Q: What's your favorite dessert?

A: Cookies

Q: What's your favorite song?

A: *Burgers and Fries* by Charley Pride

Q: What's your favorite holiday?

A: Thanksgiving

Q: What's your favorite band or musical artist?

A: Neil Diamond

Mrs. Allor is Trinity's 1st and 2nd grade teacher.

Meet Miss Rose

by Ava Harrison, Abigail Pilny, and Addison Meredith

Q: What is your favorite color? **A:** Yellow

Q: How long have you been teaching music?

A: This is my nineteenth year at Trinity but I've been teaching music for 23 years.

Q: Why do you help here at Trinity?

A: Because it is mutually beneficial and it is something fun and different to do,

and I want you to have fun and experience with music. I like hanging out with you guys, and otherwise you won't have all these opportunities.

Q: What are your hobbies? **A:** Walking, hiking, birding, and baking

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse?

A: *2 Corinthians 4:7-9* - "But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed..."

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - "So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."

Q: What is your favorite movie or tv show? **A:** White Christmas

Q: What is your favorite animal? **A:** Walrus

Q: What is your main goal in life? **A:** Too much right now, I'll pass.

Q: Where did you go to college?

A: I went to Wartburg College for my undergrad and I got my Masters degree from Colorado

Q: What was your first job? **A:** I was a dental assistant.

Q: If you were to pick a job besides teaching music, what would you pick?

A: An event planner

Q: What is your favorite book? **A:** *The Sound and the Fury* by William Faulkner

Q: What is your dream pet? **A:** I would like a bunny.

Q: What other schools do you teach at besides Trinity?

A: I teach at Walther Christian Academy, Immanuel Lutheran School in Palatine, Bethany Lutheran School in Naperville, and Trinity Lutheran School in Burr Ridge. I also run the instrumental band program for 14 Lutheran schools.

Q: What is your favorite flower? **A:** Circus Roses

Q: Are you a morning person or night person?

A: A night person, I wish I was a morning person.

Q: What quote do you live by?

A: "Do what you love, love what you do."

Q: Harry Styles or Taylor Swift? **A:** Taylor Swift



Miss Samantha Rose is Trinity's music teacher.





Meet Mrs. Scott by Tyler Zita

Q: How many years have you been teaching at Trinity?

A: Four

Q: What schools have you previously taught at?

A: I've taught at schools in New York, and in Sterling, Collinsville, Quincy, and Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Q: What is your hometown?

A: Hannibal, Missouri

Q: What schools did you graduate from?

A: Palmyra, Missouri, and Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska

Q: What is your favorite class to teach?

A: Religion

Q: What are your favorite Bible verses?

A: Romans 5:8

"...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Psalm 23

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Q: What is your favorite hymn?

A: *Abide with Me*

Q: What is your favorite movie?

A: *The Aristocats*

Q: What is your favorite TV show?

A: *Little House on the Prairie*

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: *Ramona the Pest*

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: BBQ'd hamburgers

Q: What is your favorite restaurant?

A: Broosters

Q: What is your favorite vacation spot?

A: Redwood Forest, California

Q: What is your favorite sport?

A: Baseball

Q: What is your favorite historical figure?

A: Helen Keller

Q: What is your favorite holiday?

A: Christmas

Q: What is your favorite word?

A: Amazing

Q: Do you prefer Facebook or Twitter?

A: Facebook

Q: Do you prefer cats or dogs?

A: Dogs

Q: Do you prefer the Beatles or the Rolling Stones?

A: The Beatles

Q: Do you prefer a comedy or a tearjerker?

A: Comedy

Q: Do you opt for texting or calling

A: Calling

Q: Hot Chocolate or Coffee?

A: Hot Chocolate

Q: Morning or Evening?

A: Morning

Q: Star Trek or Star Wars?

A: Star Wars



Mrs. Scott is Trinity's Kindergarten teacher.



National Earth Day

by Ariana Mehrazar

The Earth, something we all know about, is something that we should cherish. And, fortunately, there is a day to help us celebrate Earth each year. This day April 22. Though, there is more to this day than you most likely know.

What is the Backstory Behind National Earth Day?

The first Earth Day was held in 1970, when a United States senator from Wisconsin arranged a national demonstration to draw attention to environmental issues. Rallies took place across the country, and, by the end of the year, the U.S. government had created the Environmental Protection Agency. By 1990, Earth Day was an event celebrated in 140 countries and more around the globe.

You can try celebrating National Earth Day any day! It's a wonderful idea, and we can take care of our Earth more. Try picking up trash around your neighborhood.



FRIDAY at TRiNiTY

by Abigail Pilny

Scrabble is a fun game that we played at Trinity on Friday, April 12 - perfect timing because National Scrabble Day was April 13! The classic board game (created in 1938) involves making words from letter tiles and adding them to board. Two to four players are perfect. I had not played Scrabble before, but I new it would be a fun alternative to sitting here doing my schoolwork, right? I did learn that when it comes to Scrabble, strategy always helps!



All About Sourdough Bread Day

by Abigail Pilny

National Sourdough bread day is on April 1, when we recognize one of the world's oldest leavened breads. Sourdough bread takes a long time to make. It takes a while to firm up while using lactobacilli and yeasts. The bread is has a distinctive "sour" taste, but in my opinion it's really good! Sourdough originated in Ancient Egypt around 1500 BC. Even though April 1 has come and gone, you can enjoy sourdough bread all year round. And if you haven't tried it, you really should - don't miss out.

Here are some ways to try sourdough bread:

- Soak it in beaten egg with a little milk and fry it to make sourdough french toast
- Try it with toppings like avocado, cheese, and tomatoes, or use it to make your favorite sandwich
- Dunk it in hot soup
- Toast and crumble or cut for fresh salad croutons
- Best of all...serve warm with creamy butter...yum

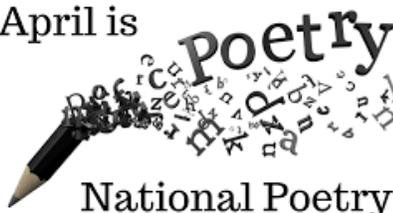
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH *by Aidan Harrison and Arian Gomez*

Every year comes a very special month. The month of April is known as **Volunteer Month**. This month commemorates everyone who gives hard work and energy throughout the year. During April, as they do year round, many people will volunteer and serve those in need. The Bible says in In 1 John 3:18, "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." And it Matthew 6:2-4, Jesus tells us, "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."



Editor's note: Feeling the need to volunteer? There are many ways you can do so at Trinity. Contact the office at secretary@trinitylombard.org or 630.627.5601 to make the Trinity volunteer connection.

April is



National Poetry
Month

ASCENSION



May 9 is
Ascension Day

This day marks the day when Jesus returned to heaven following His Resurrection from the dead.

National Poetry Month

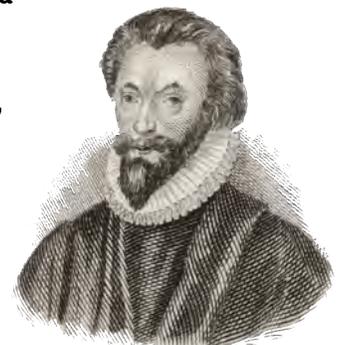
by Tyler Zita and Damian Gomez

April is National Poetry Month, 30 days of celebrating the joy, expressiveness, and pure delight of poetry. Every year there are always opportunities to do things by yourself, you can experiment and play with languages, and words, letting them trip your tongue and through your mind too, or you can write, read, or listen to and study poetry. In 1996 National Poetry Month was founded by The Academy of American Poets. This year will be the 28th annual poetry month. Trinity's journalism class participates in several poetry contests and submits poems and creative writing to Concordia University Chicago's Caesura, an online publication showcasing the work of Lutheran students.

In honor of National Poetry Month, here's a classic from 17th century poet and philosopher John Donne:

No Man is an Island

No man is an island,
Entire of itself,
Every man is a piece of the continent,
A part of the main.
If a clod be washed away by the sea,
Europe is the less.
As well as if a promontory were.
As well as if a manor of thy friend's
Or of thine own were:
Any man's death diminishes me,
Because I am involved in mankind,
And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls;
It tolls for thee.



John Donne 1571-1631

The Church Season After Easter

by Damian Gomez
- a conversation with Pastor Wagner -

Q: What happens in the church year in the season after Easter?

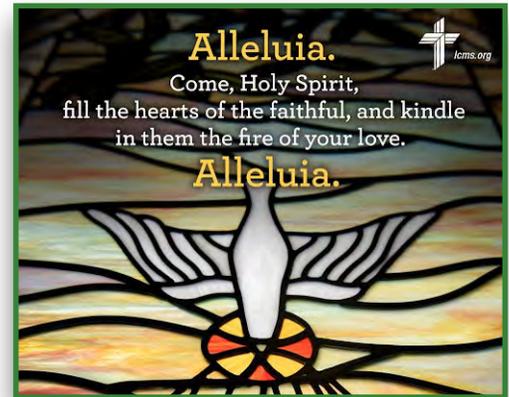
A: It's called Pentecost.

Q: What is Pentecost?

A: Pentecost is when God sent the Holy Spirit to the Church. After the Gospels, it is the rest of the New Testament. At church, in the season of Pentecost, we hear Bible passages about how to live the Christian life.

Q: What is the color of Pentecost?

A: Green, and green is the color of life, so the Holy Spirit gives the Church its life through Pentecost.



What are YOUR favorite Prayers & Confessions?

by Ariana Mehrazar

Answers from 7th and 8th grade students...

"Luther's Evening Prayer because it lets us know God will be with us." - *Angelina*

"The Apostles Creed...and also The Lord's Prayer, because Jesus said it." - *Sophia*

"The Lord's Prayer, because I'm studying it." - *Aidan*

"The Lord's Prayer, because it was the first one that came to mind." - *Tyler*

And from the 5th and 6th grade class...



"The Nicene Creed and Luther's Evening Prayer. The Nicene Creed shows us what Jesus has done for us, and Luther's Evening Prayers helps us thank God—plus, He's always with us." - *Ariana*

"All of them." - *Ava*

"The Apostles Creed or Luther's Evening Prayer, because I think they're pretty." - *Abby*

"Luther's Evening Prayer. It relieves my mind." - *Arian*

"All of them. I don't know why." - *Damian*

"The Apostles Creed, because it talks about God." - *Roscoe*

FAVORITE BOOKS

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

Abby: Magic Kitten

Addison: Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

Aidan: Heartstopper: Nick and Charlie

Angelina: Harry Potter

Ariana: A Series of Unfortunate Events, The Westing Game

Ava: Harry Potter, in particular Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, and Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

Damian: One Piece: Romance Dawn

Francesco: The Bible

Sophia: Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief

Literary
Recommendations

Facts about Queen Elizabeth II (1926-2022)

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

The late Queen of England was an interesting person...

- If the Queen moved her purse to her right arm, her staff was to cut off her conversation. The Queen used her purse to send subtle signals to her staff. If she moved the purse from her left arm to her right, it was her hint that she was ready to finish her conversation.
- Queen Elizabeth II was born at 2:40 a.m. on April 21, 1926.
- She was the only person in the United Kingdom allowed to drive without a license.
- Elizabeth was crowned Queen of England at the age of 27, taking a formal oath on June 2, 1953. She technically became queen a few years before that at the age of 25, following the death of her father King George VI. England's new monarch, King Charles III, was present at his mother's crowning. He was 4.
- Queen Elizabeth became a homeowner at just six years old.



- Elizabeth was also picky about how she ate fruit, and had a very particular way of eating bananas.
- She was allergic to cats.
- Queen Elizabeth II didn't go to university
- In her lifetime, Queen Elizabeth II sent around 50,000 Christmas cards.
 - She owned an elephant, two giant turtles, a jaguar, and a pair of sloths. These creatures were all gift from other countries. They now live in the London Zoo.

Tom Holland

by Aidan Harrison

Tom Holland is a spectacularly popular celebrity who is best known for his role as Spiderman in the newest Spiderman films. Tom Holland is a 27 year old British actor who was born in 1996 on June 1. He is my favorite actor for a few different reasons. One, because of his enthusiasm. Tom Holland is always super nice to his co-stars. Another reason I love Tom Holland is



because he is super inspirational. He has done so many great things in his life when he started out with nothing. The final reason I'm a fan is because he is attractive, with good looking hair and great facial features. I think that Tom Holland is an amazing person.



[Editor's note: Tom Holland is a Catholic and has been known to share Bible verses on some of his social media posts.]

APRIL FOOLS DAY

by Abigail Pilny

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

April Fools Day is a fun holiday that falls each year on April 1. It is a day where you can pull a prank or two on your family. Now, let's look at a couple of popular pranks:

Put a water cup on top of a door. Make sure it's closer to the edge so that when someone opens the door, it falls on them. I would suggest putting a towel on the floor, so no one slips and the floor doesn't flood - and don't do this to someone when they are dressed up fancy!

Grab someone's water bottle and open the top. Put a small circle of foil over the hole and put the top back on. Make sure to hide the foil so it won't be seen. Then, when your target goes to drink water, nothing comes out.

There are many more pranks you could try. Just always make sure that they are safe, and that no one can get hurt. Simple pranks can be fun - but don't get caught!



FACTS ABOUT THE SPHYNX CAT

by Abigail Pilny

- Sphynx cats do not have any hair.
- Some people think that they are ugly.
- People who are allergic to cats can have sphynx cats because these cats are hairless and the hair is often what people are allergic to.
- These cats can live up to 20 years.
- Sphynx cats can be many different colors, but most are like a light pink.
- They have wrinkles in their skin.
- You have to bathe sphynx cats often, and unlike most cats, they tend to like the water.
- If the cat has curled ears, it is not a sphynx, it is an elf cat.
- Sphynx cats quickly get lonely, so you cannot leave them alone for a long periods of time.



I hope you enjoyed learning about sphynx cats. Now that you know all about these curious creatures, you can tell your friends!

Our Classmates Name Their "Dream Pets"

by Ava Harrison
and Addison Meredith

Ava: Pug, Squirrel, Skunk, Chipmunk, French Bulldog, Sloth, Koala, Duck, Penguins, or Cicada

Addison: A big Turtle that is so large it can't fit in a cage so it has to walk around my house

Abby: Hamster, Bunny, or Cat

Aidan: A Gorilla? (sorry, Aidan, the closest we can find is a Gorilla)

Angelina: A Neon Flying Cow from the video game Adopt Me

Arian: Corgi or Ferret

Ariana: Ferret or Orca Whale

Damian: German Shepherd

Francesco: Cicada

Sophia: A Mega Neon Fly Ride Snow Owl (from Adopt Me)

Tyler: A Ferret that I can put around my neck like a scarf



All About Chinchillas by Roscoe Barnett

Chinchillas are rodents that are native to the Andes Mountains of northern Chile. Often kept as pets, chinchillas are also prized for their luxuriously soft fur and were nearly driven to extinction because of the demand.

Chinchilla fur was originally mottled yellow-gray in the wild, according to *The Merck Veterinary Manual*. Through selective breeding, however, other colors have become common, including silver, yellow-gray, bluish-gray, white, beige and black. Each hair ends in a black tip, no matter what color the chinchillas are.

First appearing around what some scientists say was 41 million years ago, the chinchilla's ancestors were some of the first rodents to infest South America. Chinchilla fur became popular in the 1700s, and the animals were hunted nearly to extinction by 1900. About that time, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru banned the hunting of wild chinchillas.

GOAT FACTS by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- Goats were one of the first animals to be tamed by humans and were being herded 9,000 years ago.
- Goat meat is the most consumed meat per capita worldwide.
- Goats can be taught their name and to come when called.
- The lifespan of a goat is about that of a dog.
- Baby goats (kids) are standing and taking their first steps within minutes of being born.
- Each kid has a unique call, and along with its scent, that is how its mother recognizes it from birth - not by sight.
- Counter to the dominant stereotype about goats being willing to eat anything, they are actually very picky eaters. They have very sensitive lips, which they use to "mouth" things in search of clean and tasty food. They will often refuse to eat hay that has been walked on or lying around loose for a day.
- Goats are herd animals and will become depressed if kept without any goat companions. So, it is unhealthy for a goat if a family just owns one as a pet.
- Goats, being mountain animals, are very good at climbing; they've been known to climb to the tops of trees, or even dams!
- Goats' pupils (like many hooved animals) are rectangular. This gives them vision for 320 to 340 degrees (compared to humans with 160-210) around them without having to move and they are thought to have excellent night vision.
- Goats are foragers, NOT grazers. It is actually unnatural to graze a goat on grass and increases the likelihood of them picking up harmful parasites. In their natural habitat, they roam mountaintops and reach up as high as possible to pick out choice bits of forage around them.
- Goats have four "stomachs." Their food moves first into the rumen (from which it is periodically regurgitated for more "cud chewing"), then to the reticulum, later to the omasum, and finally to the abomasum (which is most like a more sensitive human stomach).
- Goats are burpers! This is due to the role of their rumen. The rumen, which in a mature goat holds four to five gallons of plant material, breaks down cellulose and acts as a fermentation vat. Of course, fermentation produces gas, and this gas escapes in the form of loud, healthy burps. On a goat farm, the goats can frequently be heard burping in the barn.



SKUNKS: STRIPED AND STINKY

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- Skunks are carnivores.
- Their stinky spray is not a weapon - it is a warning.
- Their spray is a last resort.
- It takes 10 to 12 days to replenish their stinky spray.
- Before spraying, a skunk will often charge at an attacker, stomp its front legs or hiss.
- Skunks are one of four wild animals considered to be primary carriers of the rabies virus, according to the Humane Society.
- The Eastern spotted skunk is the only skunk that can climb trees,
- They often aim for the eyes when they go to spray you
- Tomato Juice won't get rid of the smell
- About one in 1,000 people can't smell skunks
- Skunks eat bees
- Many predators avoid skunks, but not all do



Snapping Turtles

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- ★ Snapping turtles are selective about where they live.
- ★ There is more than one species of snapping turtle.
- ★ They are omnivores, eat both plants and animals
- ★ Snapping turtles run at an average speed of 2.4 mph. In water, this speed boosts up to 10 to 12 mph.
- ★ Its carapace - shell - can reach 8-14 inches in length, and adult turtles can weigh up to 45 pounds.
- ★ Snapping Turtles are only dangerous to people when people who are bothering them. If you don't mess with them, these turtles are safe.



APHIDS: Amazing Facts

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- All aphid offspring are female, born pregnant, and give live birth.
- Their birth rate is 3-8 aphids per day for 30 days or up to 80 per day for an adult aphid which sounds like a lot but they have many predators so they get eaten very quickly.
- Aphids live for approximately one month.
- When aphids die they turn brown and become swollen.
- Aphids are sometimes called plant lice because they will eat almost any plant.
- These insects range in color from green to yellow, brown, red, or even black.
- Aphids are attracted to the color yellow.
- They can survive in temperatures as low as -29 Fahrenheit.



by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

Tomato Frog Talents

- **Tomato Frogs do not enjoy being handled.**
- **These amphibians that originated from the primary rainforests of Madagascar spend the daytime buried in the ground.**
- **At night Tomato Frogs hunt worms and insects.**
- **In contrast to most other species of frogs, Tomato Frogs have real teeth.**
- **They walk or hop about and are not good swimmers.**
- **Breeding occurs from February to March after heavy rains when males call to the females from ditches, pools and marshes.**
- **A female tomato frog will lay over 1,000 eggs on the surface of the water.**
- **Tomato Frogs have the ability to see color even when it is so dark that humans are not able to see anything at all.**

Glass Frog Facts

- Glass Frogs are found only in South and Central America.
- They spend most of their time in trees.
- Glass frogs can jump long distances.
- Only their undersides are translucent.
- They're nocturnal.
- Glass Frogs are so named because their internal organs can be seen through the frog's transparent skin and muscles.
- Glass Frogs are mostly arboreal, which means they live in trees.
- There are around 151 species in this family of tree frogs.

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Fully
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RED EYED TREE FROG

- Red-Eyed Tree Frogs grow up slowly.
- The scientific name for a Red-Eyed Tree Frog is *Agalychnis Callidryas*. The name was inspired by the frog's good looks: it means beautiful tree nymph.
- Red-Eyed Tree Frogs are found throughout Central America, and also in Mexico.
- These frog's eggs can hatch early if disturbed by a predator's approach.
- They're nocturnal.
- Red-Eye Tree Frogs are not very tasty.
- They're excellent climbers.
- Their eggs hatch fast.
- Red-Eye Tree Frogs are the speed-eating champions of the frog world.

GOLIATH BIRD-EATING SPIDERS *by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith*



- > The Goliath Spider, a tarantula, take its name from the Biblical Goliath, a giant Philistine warrior from the Old Testament.
- > Even with eight eyes, the Goliath Bird-Eating Spider doesn't see much. It uses the hairs on its legs and abdomen to sense vibrations on the ground or in the air.
- > Goliath Bird-Eating Spiders don't actually eat birds, they could, but they don't.
- > Goliath's venom is deadly to small creatures, but

is not lethal to humans. A bite would sting about as much as a wasp's.

- > Even though the isn't lethal, the fangs will definitely hurt - those fangs can be 2 to 4 inches long.
- > Looking with a ruler will make it even crazier - that's when you realize that the Goliath Bird-Eating Spider is the largest spider in the world.
- > Goliath Bird-Eating Spiders can hiss.
- > These massive spiders can regenerate lost limbs through a molting process.
- > Children in Venezuela hunt and eat Goliath Bird-Eaters!
- > As far as tarantulas and other arachnids go, the Goliath Bird-Eating Spider is one of the least friendly.



Japanese Spider Crabs

by Addison Meredith and Ava Harrison

- This crab's carapace (shell) stays the same size once it becomes an adult, but the legs keep growing.
- These large crabs are thought to live 50 to 100 years.
- Female Japanese Spider Crabs can lay up to 1.5 million eggs in a season, but only a few survive.



- Spider crabs can grow to have a leg span of almost 20 feet. It is also called the slow crab for its extremely sluggish movements, it's cruising speed is only about .4 miles per hour.
- Spider crabs could walk on land but not for any significant amount of time, as they would die on land - similarly to most fin fish when out of water. The spider crab's mobility would be seriously compromised without the buoyant lift provided by water.



HAMMERHEAD SHARKS

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- There are nine species of Hammerhead sharks in the world.
- Hammerheads have eyes that allow for 360 degrees of vision but cannot see in front of them.
- The distinctive 'hammer-head' part of the shark is called a cephalofoil.
- These sharks are unaffected by stingray barbs.

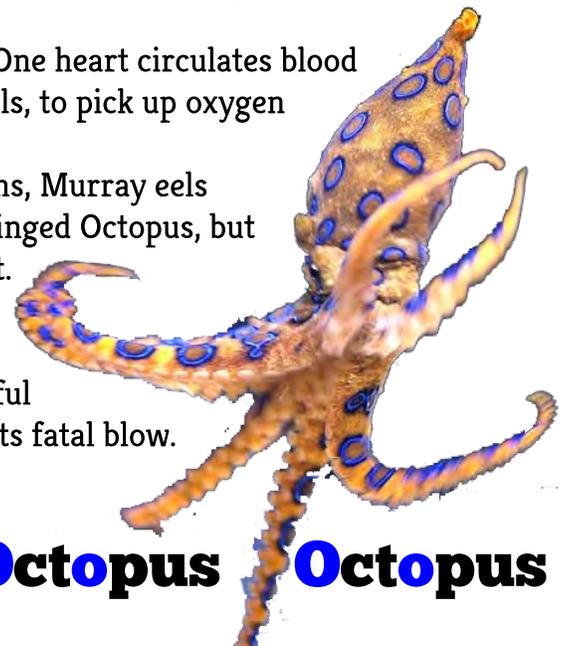
- Hammerhead sharks can get a suntan.
- A special muscle allows Hammerheads to move their head up and down.
- Great Hammerhead Sharks can live to up to 44 years.
- They have very impressive triangular, serrated teeth—like the edges of a saw blade.
- These sharks can weigh from 500 to 1000 pounds.
- A Hammerhead shark uses its wide head to trap stingrays by pinning them to the seafloor.
- The Hammerhead also has special sensors across its head that help it scan for food in the ocean.
- The topsides of these fish are grayish-brown or olive-green and they have white bellies.
- A female shark gives birth to live young.
- One Hammerhead litter can range from six to about 50 pups.



The Blue-Ringed Octopus

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- It is said that the venom of this octopus could kill 26 adults in just a few minutes.
- There is no antivenom for treatment of the bite of the Blue-Ringed Octopus.
- They live two to three years.
- An octopus's three hearts have slightly different roles. One heart circulates blood around the body, while the other two pump it past the gills, to pick up oxygen
- An octopus has up to nine brains.
- While its soft tissues are extremely poisonous to humans, Murray eels seem immune to it and are the main predator for Blue-Ringed Octopus, but seals, dolphins and whales can also enjoy this exotic treat.
- Blue-Ringed Octopuses are one of the world's most venomous marine animals.
- The Blue-Ringed Octopus grabs its prey with its powerful arms, and bites down with its teeth or radula, to deliver its fatal blow.



Octopus Octopus Octopus Octopus Octopus



The Cicadas Are Coming

by Francesco Lamphere

Cicadas are insects that have one of the longest lifespans. They live 13 to 17 years but that is all underground. They live for about one month above ground until they die. Newly born cicadas emerge in their shells, which they shed. The male cicada makes a loud sound to attract a mate, but the females, however, cannot make any sound. Cicadas emerge in a brood.

One broods appears every 17 years and another every 13. This May, both will appear in Illinois. Only once each 220 years cicadas come out in two broods. The last time was in 1803, and now in 2024, and it will happen again in 2245. Buried 8 to 12 inches deep, they feed on tree roots while they are underground. Cicadas may sometimes get as loud as a motorcycle.

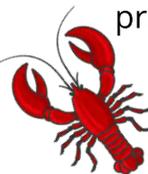
Source information from USA TODAY [<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/the-cicadas-are-coming-check-out-a-2024-map-of-where-the-two-broods-will-emerge/ar-BB1ymCP#image=1>] & University of Illinois at Champaign Urbana - College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences [<https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/good-growing/2024-02-22-cicadas-are-coming-periodical-cicadas-illinois-2024>]



Seahorses

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- They may not look like it, but Seahorses are technically fish.
- Seahorses are infamously awful swimmers.
- Seahorses follow a strict diet, and the goal is to eat—constantly.
- They mate for life.
- Male Seahorses have babies! The male Seahorse carry the eggs and then give birth to the baby Seahorses.
- They have superb camouflage capabilities.
- Seahorses' eyes work independently of one another.
- They have a brain and a hard exoskeleton rather than scales.



Lobsters

by Ava Harrison and Addison Meredith

- Lobsters have clear blood.
- They can regenerate their limbs.
- Lobsters have poor vision.
- These crustaceans smell with their legs.
- Lobsters chew with their stomachs.
- These shellfish grow by molting.
- Lobsters can swim backward.
- They cannot process pain.
- Lobsters are cannibalistic.
- They never stop growing.
- The first lobster catch recorded in the New World was over 400 years ago.
- Lobster was once considered "poor man's food."
- Egg-bearing lobsters are legally protected.





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WORD LIST:

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- ANGELINA
- CREATION MUSEUM
- DINOSAURS
- ECLIPSE
- FAMILIES
- FORT KNOX
- GOLD
- HORSES
- ILLINOIS
- INDIANA
- KENTUCKY
- MAC AND CHEESE
- MAMMOTH CAVE
- MR BAERENKLAU
- OHIO
- PASTOR WAGNER
- PATTON MUSEUM
- ROAD TRIP
- SCHOOL
- SOPHIA
- TRINITY
- TYLER

*Class trip photos above:
 Top row:
 Photos from the General George S. Patton, Jr. Museum of Leadership at Fort Knox
 Bottom row:
 Breakfast (left), and the Creation Museum.*



The New Trinity Times is a monthly newsletter produced by the 5th through 8th grade students of Trinity Lutheran School in Lombard, Illinois. The 2023-2024 staff members are: Addison, Abigail, Aidan, Angelina, Arian, Ariana, Ava, Damian, Francesco, Roscoe, Sophia, and Tyler, under the direction of Mrs. Lori Solyom, journalism teacher.