

Fifth through eighth grades at Trinity Lutheran School are departmentalized with a homeroom teacher and several teachers who are specialized in their field.

Bible Study *Grades 5-8*

Concordia Publishing House,

One in Christ ©2011 (Grade 5), *Voyages* ©2011 (Grades 6-8)

Fifth through eighth grade Bible study class is designed to minister the Gospel to each child. Along with the curriculum supplemental materials are used to help students learn they are unique and a special part of God's creation. We talk about various subjects such who God is, each part of the Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and how God works in our lives. Students read out of the Bible, pray regularly, and participate in class discussions. Students are equipped with knowing Law and Gospel and can go out and witness to others. They see they are blessed by God to be a blessing to others.

Weekly Chapel

All Trinity Lutheran School students attend weekly chapel services on Wednesday morning.

Language

English Grammar *Grade 5*

Harcourt, Trophies ©2002

Throughout the year students are taught all major parts of speech, writing mechanics including the six traits of writing, and author's craft. Within the context of these topics students learn to use the English language in a way that is unique to them, but is also correct and uniform.

English Grammar *Grade 6*

Houghton Mifflin, Grammar ©2004

Learning parts of speech, basic sentence structure and other grammar aspects such as usage, capitalization, and punctuation highlight the language curriculum in sixth grade. Students are introduced to these concepts and explore them more in-depth as the year continues.

English Grammar *Grades 7 & 8*

Houghton Mifflin, Grammar ©2004

The grammar program reviews the basics: the sentence and proper sentence structure, the parts of speech, proper usage, mechanics (capitalization and punctuation), and research techniques.

Literature *Grade 5*

Harcourt, Trophies ©2002

The fifth grade reading curriculum utilizes reading materials and strategies from a wide variety of sources. Fifth graders read stories that contain fiction, fantasy, and non-fiction excerpts. Students are introduced to authentic literature through the reading of novels. Students also learn important comprehension and vocabulary building skills while reading every day.

Literature *Grade 6*

McDougal Littell, Literature ©2008

The sixth grade reading curriculum includes several novels that are read over the course of the year. These are done as required guided reading within the classroom so that students are taught to become 'active' readers. Throughout the year, students study many literary devices (plot, graphing, conflict, character analysis, setting, point of view, etc.) and figures of speech (alliteration, similes, metaphors, personification, symbols, etc.).

Literature *Grades 7 & 8*

McDougal Littell, Literature ©2008

Students continue their in-depth study of literature as they read several novels and also various selections from their anthology text which exposes them to a variety of literature genres: fiction, non-fiction, drama, poetry, and essays.

Writing *Grades 5-8*

Students learn to write effective sentences, paragraphs, and essays utilizing the six traits. Each student is required to produce a fully documented research paper that follows the MLA format, the format that is most prevalent in high school and college today.

Spelling *Grade 5*

Harcourt, Trophies ©2002

Spelling is connected with the reading curriculum. It is a combination of vocabulary and spelling that enables students to build these skills within two curricular areas.

Word Skills *Grades 6-8*

The spelling and vocabulary words utilized for sixth grade weekly test originate from their world history units. The words studied by students grades 6-8 are based on Latin and Greek roots, well-known base words, prefixes and suffixes.

Math

Mathematics Course 1 *Grade 5*

Pearson, PH Math Course 1 ©2010

Course 1 includes a combination of rational numbers, patterns, geometry and integers in preparation for one-and two-step equations and inequalities. An emphasis on fractions solidifies student understanding of rational number operations in preparation for applying these skills to algebraic equations. Activity Labs throughout the text provide hands-on, minds-on experiences to reach all types of learners.

Mathematics Course 2 *Grade 6*

Pearson, PH Math Course 2 ©2010

Course 2 consists of a structured approach to a variety of topics such as ratios, percents, equations, inequalities, geometry, graphing and probability.

Mathematics Course 3 *Grade 7*

Pearson, PH Math Course 3 ©2010

Course 3 provides a solid foundation in order to fully prepare students for Algebra 1. A focus on integers, rational numbers and real numbers sets the stage for equations, inequalities and functions.

Algebra I *Grade 8*

Pearson, Algebra 1 ©2011

Eighth grade students who test into this section of math will have the opportunity to complete this first-level, high school algebra course before going into high school. This series helps students develop a deep understanding of mathematics through thinking, reasoning, and problem solving.

Science The science curriculum provides opportunities for students to explore various scientific concepts within the context of the Christian faith.

Science *Grade 5*

Harcourt, Science ©2009

This text teaches basic Life, Earth and Physical Science through fun, hands-on activities. Each lesson is tied directly to National Science Education Content Standards and uses an inquiry-based approach designed to enhance learning.

Science *Grade 6*

Holt, Science Explorer: Physical Science ©2007

Major units on planet Earth, Earth's changing surface, Earth's waters, weather and climate, and astronomy are studied during the year. Lab work and use of the text will outline the science day.

Science *Grade 7*

Holt, Science Explorer: Physical Science ©2007

During the year students will cover the topics of cells and heredity, diversity of living things, human biology and health, and ecology through use of the text book and a variety of lab experiments.

Science *Grade 8*

Holt, Science Explorer: Physical Science ©2007

Students use the text and a wide variety of lab experiments to cover four major concepts: chemical building blocks, motion, forces and energy, sounds and light, and electricity and magnetism.

Social Studies

United States History *Grade 5*

Harcourt, Horizons ©2003

Students begin their exploration of US history in the mid-1700's by studying the French/Indian War. Studies continue with the American Revolution, the United States Civil War, and the early twentieth century. Note taking and vocabulary skills are important components of the class and students are taught these very valuable skills during the year.

World History *Grade 6*

Harcourt Brace, World History ©2002

This curriculum emphasizes World History from the time of the Ice Age, introducing various cultures of the ancient, middle, and modern times. Students visit the Fertile Crescent, Egypt, India, China, Greece, Rome, the Islamic world, Africa, Japan, the Americas, Europe, Asia, and Australia, all in chronological sequence.

Geography *Grade 7*

Harcourt Brace, The World ©2002

Seventh Grade students learn about their world from a geography

viewpoint. Learning extensive map skills, they incorporate them into their study of different regions of the world. Areas that are studied include: the Americas, Europe and Russia, Southwest and Central Asia, South and East Asia and the Pacific, and Africa. Capitals, culture, and the history of each area are studied.

Government / Civics *Grade 8*

Holt, *American Government* ©2003

Eighth grade students study United States Government and the U.S. Constitution. Examination of the way in which government in the United States is organized and the impact it has on the lives of citizens is studied.

Spanish

Spanish at Trinity uses an immersion model. Students learn to speak, read, and share their thoughts in Spanish. Class is interactive and fun. Curriculum is tied to Arizona State Standards as well as a celebration of the faith.

Technology

South-Western Cengage Learning,

Learning with Computers ©2004 (5/6) ©2012 (7/8)

Students learn and apply computer skills as they work through the cross-curricular projects. Projects are based on reading, writing, math, social studies, and art, and have a keyboarding practice page included. Students receive reinforcement to touch typing, social and ethical issues of using a computer, spreadsheet formatting. They master basic computer operations and concepts, graphics and multimedia, and more.

Art, *Meet the Masters*

Meet the Masters teaches students about the famous artists and their techniques. A variety of media are used to give students a well-rounded experience in the arts. From crayons and chalk, to paint and glue, to tracing and cutting, different items are used to create masterpieces. Art is an area where students develop fine motor skills, thus helping their writing/handwriting skills. Additionally, Art is incorporated to match different topics of discussion being covered throughout the year.

Music

The music curriculum at Trinity Lutheran School is designed to expand a child's knowledge base each year. Each class period will incorporate singing, movement, and listening. Throughout the year, students will learn to read music, play instruments, improvise, and compose. Students will perform in chapel, church services, and the Christmas/Spring programs.

Physical Education (PE)

Students are in PE twice a week. Providing a rich and wide range of individual and group activities help children:

- Develop motor skills that can be used for a lifetime.
- Improve their overall fitness level.
- Develop positive social interactions through play, recreation and sports.
- Gain knowledge and understanding of rules, etiquette, and strategies.



Grades 5 -8

Middle School Curriculum



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Enrollment Non-Discriminatory Policy

Trinity Lutheran School admits students of any race, color, sex, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the school. Trinity does not discriminate in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, or other school-administered programs.

The school is an equal opportunity institution, which also applies those same standards to its employment guideline for staff.

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Teachers

Molly Benally
Dr. Bob Biel
Mallory Cooney
Anita Mosley
Lori Stadler

Accredited By
National Lutheran Schools Accreditation
Commission and The North Central
Association of Colleges and Schools

