

Mission, Vision, and Statement of Faith



1.0 General Information

Trinity Academy is a classical, Christian, hybrid model school established as a gift-supported mission (unaffiliated with any one denomination) in west central Illinois to partner with Christian families in the education of their children. As a school, Trinity Academy adheres to what is held in common by the historic Christian churches for the sake of the Gospel without denominational bias. Trinity Academy leaves final doctrinal teachings to the family and local church while holding that which unifies us to be greater than that which divides us.

1.1 Mission - The mission of Trinity Academy is to provide classical education combining Christ-centered focus with academic excellence. (Proverbs 2:6)

1.2 Vision - Trinity Academy will be a beacon of hope in the community as we strive to nurture joyful children whose hearts are inspired to love God and mankind; whose minds can discern what is true, good, and beautiful; and who speak with eloquence to boldly proclaim and defend Truth. Our legacy will be their devoted lives marked by compassion, integrity, and a continued longing for knowledge and God's wisdom as they bear Christ's image in the world.

1.3 Core Values

- **WONDER**-We will encourage and model wonder in order to cultivate gratitude and forge a deep desire to learn.
- **RESPONSIBILITY**-We will embrace our responsibilities by facing any challenge, failure or success with a courageous spirit.
- **WISDOM**-We will honor the wisdom of those who have come before us and build our own, going beyond the mastery of facts into rich conversations and life application.
- **KINDNESS**-We will train our hearts inwardly and behave outwardly with kindness.
- **INTEGRITY**-We will be honest in our words, strong in our wills and fair in our deeds, always striving to display Jesus Christ, who is the perfect picture of integrity.
- **LEGACY**-We will treasure the bonds of physical and spiritual family to hone a legacy that is a blessing.

1.4 Statement of Faith (Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic** and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

** Denotes "universal" rather than referencing a denomination or religion.

1.5 Biblical Basis

We recognize the Holy Bible as the word of God (Psalm 19:7-10; 119:105; Acts 17:11, 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21, 2 Timothy 2:15, 3:15-16). As it was God's will to speak through the writers of the Old and New Testaments, there is no better way to learn about Him than to study their words. We endeavor to write His truths on our hearts, using scripture when we lift our voices in praise and extend comfort. Recognizing the limitations of a sin nature, we use the Holy Bible for guidance in all matters. The following prayerfully crafted principles are presented as an aid as we seek to please God, not man (Galatians 1:8-10) and understand His will for Trinity Academy.

1.5.1 We submit in awe to God's supreme authority (Exodus 20:2-3; Jude 24, 25). Recognizing that God is our Father, Creator, Sustainer, Savior, and Lord; we live our lives showing that His ways and His plan are best for us. This means denying ourselves and our natural ways and desires in order to submit to His Word in how we worship, interact with others, and spend time and money.

1.5.2 We accept with humility our designation as His image-bearers. (Genesis 9:6, John 17:18-23; 2 Peter 1:4) God created us to reflect Him, both in the beginning and in our identification with Jesus' death and resurrection. We are therefore called to display His character and attributes to the fallen world and to each

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other. This means sacrificially placing others before ourselves, extending mercy and forgiveness, and speaking the truth in love.

- 1.5.3** We believe God's design for humans is unequivocal and immutable (Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 2:7, 24; Ephesians 5:30-31; Psalms 139:13-16; Malachi 2:14-15; Exodus 20:14; Jeremiah 1:5; Isaiah 44:2). Humans are of inestimable value at all stages and conditions of life, from conception through natural death. We are created male and female as two distinct and complementary genders together reflecting God's image. For the good of all creation, God instituted marriage with only one meaning: the joining of one man and one woman in an exclusive union and as the only venue for sexual intimacy. We will therefore hold fast to the integrity of God's mandate for humanity, responding with compassion and truth when pressed by the shifting opinions of current culture.
- 1.5.4** We honor the intentional purpose of God's creation (Genesis 2:15; Ephesians 2:10). Our world is fearfully and wonderfully made. Humans were placed in the garden to be stewards over what God declared to be good. In our lives and in our school, we seek to understand our role in creation and how to rightly love and esteem the world around us.
- 1.5.5** We seek a Spirit-filled life that displays the joy of our salvation (Isaiah 61:1-3, 10-11; Jn. 14:26). The helper Jesus promised to send us His Spirit, who dwells inside of believers. It is vitally important that we cultivate our relationship with Him through prayer, study, and meditation. We know He is present when the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control) is seen in the way we treat others, react to hardship, and prioritize our time.
- 1.5.6** We long for perfect communion both with God and with each other (Revelation 21:3-4). Together with all creation, we look and hope for the time when Jesus Christ will return and make all things new. In light of that promise, we fix our eyes on a heavenly prize, not allowing ourselves to get caught up in worldly snares such as materialism, selfishness, and vanity. Rather our words and actions will serve as a guide so others may come to know His way.
- 1.5.7** We love because God first loved (John 3:16). God is the truest, purest, and most perfect definition of love. We cannot understand love without an understanding of Him. We will answer God's command to love Him by opening our hearts to His will and by listening for His calling in our lives. We will love others as ourselves, serving in the name of Jesus Christ.