

# The Flame

Development Newsletter—May 2007

...fan into flame the gift of God. 2 Timothy 1:6



## MISSION:

TRINITY'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROVIDES STABILITY FOR THE SCHOOL BY SECURING PRIVATE, PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT FOR ITS PROGRAMS. OUR MISSION IS TO FULLY DEVELOP TRINITY'S FACILITIES AND PROPERTIES TO ENABLE EACH STUDENT TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WHY GOD CREATED THEM .

## CONTACT US:

200 TRINITY WAY  
MORGANTOWN, WV  
26505  
PHONE: 304-291-4659  
FAX: 304-291-4660

BRETT HUMBLE  
BHUMBLE@TCSWV.ORG

HERMAN PIERSON  
HPIERSON@TCSWV.ORG

WWW.TCSWV.ORG

## Is it really worth it?

Is it really worth it? Probably just about everybody asks this question at one time or another in some context. I am asked it a lot when I am telling others about the value of Christian Education and/or seeking support for our school. It might come from a prospective parent considering paying tuition for their child's education as opposed to free public education. It might be asked by a parent or grandparent considering making a pledge to the Capital Campaign even though their finances are tight. It might be a successful business leader we've asked to make a significant donation to the school even though he or she doesn't have school-age children. It might be one of our families trying to find the motivation to go through another school fundraiser! It could even be a Development Officer frustrated by being told no or to wait by another potential supporter. Or it might be the teacher who continues to give even though they know they could

be making more doing the same job in the public sector. And there are many other scenarios that can cause a person to ask this question.

I can only speak from my own experience. But I do have the privilege of seeing things firsthand, as a parent of a Trinity student, as well as an employee who gets to see the school's mission being carried out on a daily basis. It takes a lot of hard work and sacrifice by all. Is it really worth it? Does it really make a difference?

And then you see a teenager cry because the burden she has for friends who have gotten away from their relationship with Christ or for the friends that haven't made a decision to serve Him yet. You hear her pray for lost relatives. You have your spirits lifted when she quotes scripture and tells you inspiring stories when you are having a rough day. You watch her blossom into a beautiful young woman with a heart on fire for God in large-part because of the teaching and mentoring she has received from her teachers. You at-

tend meetings with teachers and see people that would give anything and everything to help prepare your child for life. You see kids getting opportunities to participate in activities they probably wouldn't have had at other schools.

You see students excelling in academics, one even scoring perfect on the ACT! You see coaches take kids under their wing and love them as if they were their own child. You see donors come in and give even when you know they don't really have it to give. You see others who give unbelievable amounts because they are thankful for the difference God made in their lives through the school. You see an elementary school student walk in and put down their allowance as a donation because they heard the operational budget was short and his teacher might not get paid.

You see parents give their time to work at the school just to make it a better place or to help us reduce our operational costs. You see kids go on

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**(Worth it?...continued from front page)**

community service projects and missions trips and bless others by their willingness to work and to give everything they have. You hear about a waitress left speechless when a group of students left her an incredible tip (on their own ) because she had to wait on every table by herself when their group came into her restaurant just shortly before closing. You see Trinity alumni that have now graduated college and are out there in the world excelling in their profession while standing firm on their foundation of faith.

I walk down the halls and hear what the kids say. I see what they do in the classroom and on the field of competition. I see their smiling faces and their youthful exuberance. As I walk down the hallways and spend time in the classroom, I see tomorrow’s missionaries, doctors, lawyers, writers, interior designers, musicians, artists, teachers, mechanics, bankers, pastors, members of the armed forces, future Congressmen, Senators and possibly even a future President. If you could have the opportunity to have an “It’s a Wonderful Life” kind of experience and see what the world would be like if these kids weren’t getting a Christian education, what you would see would be scary because Christ is going to touch so many people through their lives, not to mention what He is doing directly to them! They are not all perfect, but none of us are. We can only be made perfect through Christ and that is what is going on through this school and everything we go through to make this possible for our kids.

If you ask me if it is worth it, my answer is NO! It is worth so much more than any tuition we can charge, any huge donation we can get, or any price we can put on it. We could never give enough or pay enough to meet the value of what our children get through this school and Christian education. The only person that can pay the price for what it is worth paid it on the Cross with His life! **The only thing we can do is to do our best for God and He will take that and multiply it for His purposes.** It only takes a spark to get a fire started. “For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you...(2 Timothy 6).” I can see through my own experiences that it does make a difference and it is more than worth it. We are getting a bargain for what God is going to do in return with our sacrifices. And I would be willing to bet that if you look around, you will come to the same conclusion.

Thanks for all you do! - BH

***Development Update***

**January Donations**

Unrestricted	\$6,385.32
Capital	\$17,422.00
Other	\$5,000.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$28,807.32</u>

**February Donations**

Unrestricted	\$12,751.92
Capital	\$25,692
Other	\$5,000.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$43,443.92</u>

**March Donations**

Unrestricted	\$21,170.57
Capital	\$19,150.00
Other	\$480.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$40,800.57</u>

**April Donations**

Unrestricted	\$49,333.31
Capital	\$12,048.00
Bridge Fund	\$65,000.00
Other	\$135.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$126,516.31</u>



**Bridge Fund???**

In order for the school to meet its operational budget through June, as well as make payments on our construction bond, we need to raise \$200,000. We have initiated a special campaign -The Bridge Fund- to enable us to bridge this gap. What we are looking in this mini-campaign is for 40 of our closest friends and family to contribute \$5,000. As of the first week of May we have already raised over \$95,000! However, we need your help so that we can accomplish our goal. We ask you to prayerfully consider participating in this campaign to help us bridge the gap? You can participate even if you are unable to donate \$5,000. Whether it is \$2,500, \$1,000, \$500, or \$100, every dollar will help!

**Jehovah Jireh will provide!**