

# The Flame

Development Newsletter—December 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.

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## GREAT START—Seeking a Strong Finish for the Year

As the year 2007 draws to a close, it is a good time to pause and take a look at where we stand. The school year isn't anywhere near being over so it isn't really time to take a look at all we have accomplished and plan for next year as people traditionally do when they celebrate the New Year. But it is a good chance to assess how you are doing and make any necessary adjustments so you can stay on course. It is also a great time to thank you once again for all you do to help us accomplish our mission. As you will see from the numbers that follow, God has continued to provide for us and bless us through your generous friendship and support and for that we can never say **THANK YOU enough!** While the school operates on a Fiscal Year that runs from July 1-June 30th, we will take a look at the resources that have been raised over the 2007 calendar year. Please keep in mind that this is written with a month to go in the year and December is always a big month for charitable giving.

### Jan. 1– Nov. 30, 2007 Charitable Contributions

<i>Capital Funds</i>	
Capital Campaign	\$180,319
Mortgage Squad	\$186,877
<u>Capital (other)</u>	<u>\$ 3,000</u>
Total	\$370,196

\*Includes \$48,480 in pledges with a balance due of \$41,098 as of November 30, 2007

<i>Bridge Fund</i>	
<i>(used to meet Capital and Operational expenses)</i>	
Bridge Fund	<u>\$95,446</u>

<i>Non-Capital Funds</i>	
Unrestricted	\$160,944
Music/Band	\$ 9,695
Athletics	\$ 8,005
Art Program	\$ 5,000
In-Kind Donations	\$ 1,168
<u>Other misc. funds</u>	<u>\$ 6,190</u>
Total	\$191,002

### 07 Total in gifts and pledges \$656,644

*Praise God for His provision!*

We reach the mid-point of our Fiscal Year December 31st so we will provide you with the following mid-year snapshot.

### 2007-08 Fiscal Year Charitable Contributions July 1-Nov. 30, 2007

<i>Capital Funds</i>	
Capital Campaign	\$169,661
Mortgage Squad	\$ 94,422
<u>Capital (other)</u>	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
Total	\$265,083

### *Non-Capital Funds*

Unrestricted	\$ 55,371
Music/Band	\$ 9,695
Athletics	\$ 6,300
<u>Other misc. funds</u>	<u>\$ 330</u>
Total	\$ 71,696

### 07-08 FY Total in gifts and pledges: \$336,779

### Actual Money Received July 1– Nov. 30, 2007 *(does not include remaining balance of pledges made)*

Capital	\$220,113
Unrestricted	\$ 54,045
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$ 19,097</u>
Total	\$293,225

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT!

Your support of our Operational Fund does so much more than pay teacher's salaries, buy supplies, pay utilities, etc. And your support of our Capital Campaign does a lot more than make payments on our building, buy equipment, provide technology, etc. Your contributions:

- ◆ Provide a safe and nurturing environment where God is welcome
- ◆ Help prepare youth for a life of service unto Christ
- ◆ Provide classrooms where students can read their Bible and pray freely
- ◆ Help maintain high academic standards
- ◆ Enable students to develop mentally, physically and spiritually and experience God's abundant life



## End of Year Giving

**A**s the end of the year approaches, many pause to review, reflect, and plan. Thoughtfully addressing your charitable giving priorities between now and December 31 can help assure maximum benefits for you and your charitable interests.

Your year-end giving is critical to the health and expansion of our school and its programs. With your help much more can still be accomplished. Your gift will enable Trin-

*Carefully considering what to give – and when to give it – can help increase the impact of your gifts while helping to meet personal priorities as well.*

ity to continue its mission to help accomplish God's purpose in the lives of students, teachers, staff, and parents as disciples of Jesus Christ, resulting in a positive influence on our community, our nation, and the world.

Giving wisely and effectively takes planning, and bene-

fits from good judgment and proper timing. We should not leave important decisions simply to emotions or to last minute availability of funds. For example, people who invest know that there can be significant tax advantages for themselves and their favorite causes if they plan when and how they give. You too might want to talk with your accountant or tax advisor to

see how your generosity could become even more effective since gifts to Trinity are tax deductible. It could, for example, be far better to give stock that has risen in value, than to sell it and give the cash. And qualified donors even have the ability to make gifts through their IRA accounts.

Imagine how much good you can do for your church, our school and/or the other causes you support if you do some planning. Your carefully considered generosity today will help Trinity “educate for life” all year long.

### *Year-end Tips for Charitable Giving*

Maximize your tax situation with an immediate deduction while benefiting charity by considering the following tips:

- ◆ *Carefully select the best property to give.*
- ◆ *Cash is convenient and provides you an income tax deduction when itemized on your income tax return.*
- ◆ *Donate appreciated stock held for more than one year and derive an additional tax benefit: avoidance of capital gain. Consider choosing appreciated stock with the greatest capital gain to take maximum advantage of this unique tax benefit.*
- ◆ *Give some, keep some. If you are not prepared to donate all of your shares of stock in a particular company, donate the amount of shares that will off-*

*set or reduce the gain when you sell the remainder of shares and keep the proceeds.*

- ◆ *Sell stock that has lost value and donate the proceeds. You can deduct the loss in value (cost basis less current value) and derive an income tax charitable deduction for the current market value.*
- ◆ *Donate disposable income generated from an IRA account and offset income taxes with a charitable deduction. Be careful here: premature withdrawals, or withdrawals and direct transfers that exceed the minimum distribution amount may incur penalties.*
- ◆ *Donate an insurance policy that you no longer find useful, and receive a charitable deduction for the cash value of the policy.*
- ◆ *Match your gift with your employer's contribution. Many companies have matching-gift programs for charitable donations by simply enclosing the company form along with your donation, and Trinity's Development staff will take care of the rest.*

**Gifts must be postmarked no later than December 31 to count for your 2007 taxes.**