



Building His Body  
By  
Reflecting the Son

**August 2012**

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:45 am Fellowship

9:05 am Sunday School

&

Bible Study

10:15 am Worship

Church Phone:

979.885.2211

Fax 979.885.7003

Web site

[www.tlcsealy.org](http://www.tlcsealy.org)

Rev. David Vandercook  
Maggie Kent, Office Secretary

## ELDERS:

Lowell Coody, 865-9638

John Fullen, 210-912-8503

Vic Grisbee, 865-5393

Lee Hobratschk, 885-6090

Jimmie Meyer, 713-503-1780

Jim Pursley, 885-6438

Matthew Rath, 713-670-6018

Carl Sebesta, 865-0366

Alfred Tomasek, 877-0848

Barry Wolf, 877-0341

# TRINITY TIDBITS

A monthly newsletter for the people of Trinity Lutheran Church of Sealy, Texas



*As I approached writing my article this month the day after tragedy struck Aurora, Colorado, Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller of Hope Lutheran Church in Aurora posted a sermon that he preached at a prayer service held at his church on July 21. I'm using his sermon as my article for this month. It strongly proclaims the Gospel in a very difficult time and is well worth reading.*

INJ

John 10

'A God Who Bleeds'

Prayer Service

The Eve of Trinity Seven | Saturday, 21 July 2012

Dear Saints,

The devil comes to kill and steal and destroy. He delights in every drop of blood spilt, in every tear, in every heart broken, in every family torn in two, every last breath. The devil loves death, he loves violence, he loves darkness; he loves this tragedy that has unfolded in our neighborhood this week.

But he is never content. He kills, and he wants more. He destroys, and he wants more. The devil is not sitting back tonight, shaking the dust off his hands, content with the pain already inflicted, he wants more. He wants you wrapped up in the chains of the fear of death. He wants your mind and heart to be draped with despair.

As the dust settles around in Aurora, the devil comes to you to tempt you, to tempt you to anger, to tempt you to fear, to tempt you to despair, perhaps worst of all, to tempt you with the idea that because you are suffering God has deserted you, has left you to yourself, that God is far away.

"Where is God in all this? He must hate you, or worse, He must not care." That, dear friends, is the devil's voice, the devil's temptation, and we've heard enough of that voice.

We are gathered here this evening to hear the voice of Jesus, your Jesus, who is not a stranger to suffering. Listen, Jesus is not a stranger to suffering. You do not have a god who sits far off, who is distant, who sits on top of the mountain, or is beyond the clouds, who is looking the other way. No, you have Jesus, the Good Shepherd, the one who doesn't just watch over the sheep. He lays down His life for the sheep. He takes His life and His righteousness to the cross for you. You, dear friends, have a God who bleeds, who bleeds for you, who suffers with you, who hears of the death of His friends and weeps, weeps over death, and fights against death for you. Jesus stands under the devil's torment, under God's wrath, under the

condemnation of the law, stands with you, stands in your place, and suffers for you. And if your Jesus suffers for you, then He will certainly suffer with you. When you suffer it does not mean that God is far away. He finds you in suffering; He saves you by suffering. When your friends and neighbors are suffering it does not mean that God has forsaken them or abandoned them. He can't. He loves them, He loves you too much.

Jesus cries out from the cross, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?" so that you never would. He prays Psalm 22 so that you can pray Psalm 23, "Yeah though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, Thou art with me." In the shadow of death, He is with us. In the shadow of violence, He is with us. In the veil of tears, He is with. He cannot leave you or forsake you, He has bound Himself to you, written His name on you with His blood, claimed you as His own and promised you life, His life, eternal life.

Jesus is not far away. The One who died for you now lives for you, prays for you, helps you in time of trouble. He sends His Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to comfort you with His presence and His promises, His forgiveness.

And it is His forgiveness, at last, that sets us free, even from the fear of violence, even from the fear of death. For in life and in death you are the Lord's, your life is His, and because for you to live is Christ, for you to die is gain. Amen.

And the peace of God which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ + +

Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller  
Hope Lutheran Church | Aurora,

## July Sermon Themes and Texts

<p><b><u>August Sermon Themes and Texts</u></b></p> <p><b>August 5</b> Theme: "Heavenly Food" Text: Exodus 16:2-15, John 6:22-35</p> <p><b>August 12</b> Theme: "Living Bread" Text: John 6:35-51</p>	<p><b>August 19</b> Theme: "Eat This Bread and Live Forever" Text: John 6:51-69</p> <p><b>August 26</b> Theme: "God's Law Made Easy" Text: Mark 7:1-13</p>
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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

## *Birthdays for the Month!*



8/01 Evangeline Coody	8/12 Patsy Romano	8/21 Pat Buechmann	
8/04 Mary Grunke	8/13 Lee Allen Palm	8/21 Shirley Svinky	
8/04 Robbyn Hill	8/14 Nicholas Naida	8/22 Dean Jacobson	
8/06 Alfred Tomasek	8/14 Jo Anne Gilliam	8/22 Tinson Rasbury	
8/06 Robert Anderson	8/15 RYANNE MEYER	8/24 ZABIEN ALLEN	
8/06 Norma Pavelka	8/15 Jim Pursley	8/25 Leann Hein	
8/06 Matthew Rivers	8/15 James Schmidt	8/26 Morgyn Rasbury	
8/09 Krishna Langton	8/15 Pat Schmidt	8/26 BRENN ROBERTS	
8/10 Jamie Wilson	8/15 Jennifer Sullivan	8/27 Stephanie Koeppen	
8/11 Matthew Ashorn	8/17 Karleigh Konesheck	8/27 Rob Emshoff	
8/11 Bill Reay	8/17 CAMERON VOJTEK	8/28 Gene Remmert	
8/11 Cheryl Steinhauer	8/18 Alton Kveton	8/28 Linda Kollatschny	
8/11 TARA HOBBS	8/20 Betty Luedecke	8/29 COLE RASBURY	
8/12 MACKENZIE LEE	8/20 GAGE NEELEY	8/31 Rae Terrell	



# Happy Anniversary



Let's rejoice with these couples as they celebrate the designated anniversaries.

8/1/1992	Wick and Kim Beane	8/18/1990	Tony and Audra Luttrall
8/2/1969	Charles and Beverly Ekarius	8/21/1949	Charlie and Phyllis Sams ♥
3/4/1951	Glenwood and Vivian Kveton ♥	8/24/1968	Gilbert and Beth Franke
8/5/1962	Charles and Karen Every	8/27/1967	Alfred and Patsy Tomasek
8/7/2010	John and Nichol Fullen	8/28/1999	Ronnie and Leann Hein
8/11/1973	Johnny & Joan Griffin	8/29/1964	Lee Allen and Janice Palm
8/13/1994	James and Jo-Anne Gilliam	8/30/1980	Charles and Barbara Havemann



Please keep in your Prayers our Nursing Home Residents

Ellie Michaels Eddie Svinky Lillie Wittenburg  
Estella Heintschel Louise Kinsey

Shut Ins J. P. Gerhart

Edd and Clara Gerstenberger Joe and Bernice Hintz  
Sharon Salyer Lavonn Schier Joyce Meyer



The family of Jean Adams would like to thank everyone involved with her service. We know many hours were spent organizing all aspects of the service and we are truly grateful.

Sincerely, Judy Olsovsky



WE APPRECIATE SO VERY MUCH THE MANY EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY SHOWN TO ALL OF US DURING OUR TIME OF LOSS. YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IS SUCH A BLESSING TO OUR FAMILY.

THE FAMILY OF ORIDELL EKARIUS



Thanks to Leslie Pacher and Jessica Pacher for organizing a great VBS this year!



A huge THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered to help with SKY VBS this year. Thank you to all of the station leaders, crew leaders, & crew/station helpers. The kids really enjoyed their week and that was all because of you. Also, thank you to everyone who helped with set up, decorations, food donations, and tear down. So much time goes into putting on VBS that without the congregation and friends of the church this would not happen. You are all greatly appreciated! Thank you again, Leslie Pacher



Thank you to Johnny Busse for arranging the shredded tire onto the playground.

Thank you to: Sarah Johnson/Clayton Fritsch

Kolby Wolf and Jonah Delozier for spreading the shredded tire into the playground.

Thanks with a Big Hug from Me to You!!

Ms. Maggie



Dear Trinity,

It was great to be able to visit with you this summer and share with you about the ministry in Turkey and to have some great desserts! Thank you for your continued support and prayers for Turkey and May God continue to bless your ministry in Sealy.

In Peace, Zachary Sommermeyer



## Food Pantry News!

In June we were able to reach out and furnish food to 213 families, which helped feed 603 individuals. In addition to our regular distribution, we also provided food to 106 families that had 257 school aged children on our summer school lunch program. As you can see, a lot of food was given out for the month.

For this month, I will try to point out some of the different types of volunteer work done around the pantry that keeps us moving forward. I need to start first by mentioning the directors, officers, coordinators, and purchasing agent that put in a great amount of time. We have people that come in on Wednesday mornings who fill orders (which we call sackers), people who carry out groceries to the patron's who are disabled, a person who takes care of the yard, and someone that keeps the flower beds clean. Continuing with other ways people are helping; someone drives to the Katy area each Tuesday morning to pick up bread and bakery items from several large grocery stores. What a wonderful way to serve. When everyone helps a little, a lot can be accomplished. Through our continuous support, we let our Lord

and Savior shine through our actions. If you might be interested in helping us in any way, contact the representatives from your church.

**Vernon Ekarius, Coordinator**



## **CHURCH BARBECUE**

**UPDATE!** The time is almost here for our Annual Barbecue scheduled this year for August 12<sup>th</sup> at the K.C. Hall on Hwy 90 West. Serving will begin at 11:00 AM. Plenty of seating is available for dining-in at the K. C. Hall. A convenient Drive-Thru is also available for the “to go” plates in addition to the traditional way of picking up plates.

Plate cost is \$8.00. Tea and coffee will be included in the price of the plate while desserts will be available for a small additional charge.

The net proceeds from the barbecue has been designated by the Church Council to be divided: 40% to the Building Fund, 40% to Trinity's General Fund, and the remaining 20% will be shared equally among the Sealy Christian Food Pantry, Helping One Another (HOA) Senior Citizens Project, Austin County Child Protective Services and the Gordon Memorial Library.

Donation sign-up sheets will be in the narthex through August 5<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of 55 quarts of home-canned pickles, 75 loaves of homemade bread, cakes and pies, and cash donations. The Barbecue Committee is asking that cash donations be given to defray the nearly \$4,000.00 of barbecue expenses. Envelopes will be in the narthex so that contributors can be given credit for their donations. Contact Sue Kristynik at 885-4954.

Anyone who can peel potatoes: this will be done Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Potato Peelers: Bring your peeling knives.

Please bring your donations of pickles and homemade bread to the K.C. Hall early Sunday morning.

Again this year will be Play'n for a Prize. For a small fee you will be able to try to win a dessert, such as cakes, pies, or cookies. Contact Mary Ruth Buechmann or Johanna Buechmann at 885-2730 if you are interested in donating to this game. Rachel Wolf, along

with the Board of Education, will be having children's games and face painting for the younger ones.

The barbecue committee fully supports the auction that will begin approximately at noon with Charlie Tiner as auctioneer. A Silent Auction will also be held. Home-made craft items are needed for both of these events. Donations can be taken to the Fellowship Hall the week before the BBQ or Saturday from 1 PM to 3 PM. If you need your item picked up, call George or Janice Wied at 865-9492. Please bring only the perishable items to the K.C. Hall early Sunday morning.

A Worship Service will be held Sunday morning at 7:00 AM at the K.C. Hall for the workers who cannot attend the regular worship service at the church. Let's all work together to make the 2012 Barbecue another successful one.

*Susie Busse*



We will again be offering meal delivery to those members who are unable to come to the KC Hall and pick up their barbecue meals on August 12. To make sure that I have enough people delivering the meals, please call me in advance, with your orders. We will again be serving barbecue chicken/sausage with sauce, buttered potatoes, pinto beans, pickles, and bread. The cost of the meal is \$8.00. Desserts are extra. I will need people to deliver the meals. If you would like to help with that, please Bev Ekarius at 885-2014.

*Bev Ekarius*



## **LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION!**

August 12<sup>th</sup> is the day for our annual BBQ this year. The live and silent auctions bring a unique opportunity to donate something handcrafted. We all love to own one of a kind items made by our friends.

We are right in the middle of canning season—how about donating some jellies, vegetables, or fruits? It doesn't even have to be processed—a nice box of fresh tomatoes is a treat for someone without a garden! Also,

watch your local stores for big sales on items—it could be the big ticket item of the day! Some merchants may even be willing to donate an item when you tell them that Trinity Lutheran shares the day's profit with several local non-profit organizations. Be sure to ask all your neighbors and friends to attend this year.

*Thank You, George and Janice Wied*



## **SENIOR DAY LUNCHEON!**

Trinity's Senior Day was held on July 10 with thirty-seven attending the luncheon. Wow, what a great attendance for this fun day even with changing the date from the first Wednesday of the month because of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Our day began with Pastor sharing a devotion and grace before lunch. The seniors send a big thank you to Carl and Patti Sebesta for providing the meat patties for the hamburgers that we served. Also, a special thank you to Mary Grunke for the decorated watermelon bowl, chocolate covered strawberries, and apples she provided. Everyone had a great time after lunch playing bingo and dominoes. Bobby Barrett and Robert Richter were our bingo callers and we thank both of them for their service. Stephen Stuessel came after lunch with dominoes in hand and found a group to challenge in dominoes. What a fun day we all had!!

Mark your calendar for the next luncheon that will be held on August 1 at 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall. We will play bingo and dominoes following the luncheon. Domino players please bring your dominoes. This luncheon is a time for seniors to come and enjoy the fellowship. You are not obligated to bring food and playing games is optional. You may invite your friends and neighbors. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please note, if you sign up to attend and are not able to come to the luncheon we ask that you call Bev or Patsy and let them know that you will not be attending. The food is prepared according to the number of individuals that sign up. Any questions call Bev Ekarius at

885-2014, Phyllis Sams at 979-732-9477 or Patsy Tomasek at 877-0848.



## **Ladies Aid News**

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid met on July 5<sup>th</sup> with Ruth Paben welcoming everyone.

Betty Herridge gave an interesting topic—"Faith be Held-Faith Blest".

Betty Remmert was welcomed as a new member.

"Blest be the Tie that Binds" was sung in memory of Oridell Ekarius.

Fred and Ruth Paben observed their wedding anniversary in July.

August hostesses are Ursula Kutra and Betty Herridge.

Hostesses Ruby Emshoff and Vivian Kveton served the delicious refreshments brought by members.

The next meeting is August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Visitors are welcome to attend.

*Loretta Dziadek*



Wow, it is hard to believe that Preschool will begin in a few weeks! My first day back to preschool will be Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup> and the teacher's first day back will be Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.

Preschool Parent Orientation will be Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm-7:00 pm. During Parent Orientation parents are given updated and last minute information about the preschool. This is also a great time to ask questions and meet their child's teacher.

The first day of Preschool will be Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> which is the day after Labor Day.

I would like to say a Great Huge Thank You to Johnny Busse for arranging the shredded tire into the playground. During VBS we had Sarah Johnson/Clayton Fritsch Kolby Wolf/Jonah Delozier spread the shredded tire on the playground. Thanks with a Big Hug from Me to You!!

*In Christ, Ms. Maggie*



**TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

June 11<sup>th</sup> 2012 Minutes

Meeting held at Trinity Lutheran Church

**Members present were:**

George Wied – President  
Dale Toellner – Vice President  
Jerry Leiber – Stewardship  
Sue Kristynik – Evangelism  
Vernon Ekarius – Trustee  
Jimmie Meyer – Elder  
Rachael Wolf – Education  
Sherri Santoro – Fellowship  
Rhonda Pavelka – Youth  
Fred Paben – Ushers

George Wied opened the meeting with devotional and prayer.

Minutes from the last meeting were read and Jimmie Meyer made a motion to accept. Jerry Leiber seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Unfinished/Old Business:**

- A. Ablaze payment discussion was tabled to next meeting.  
There was no other unfinished business.

**Reports:**

- Treasurer/Linda Blume reported the cash balance was \$10,724.36 in general fund. The building fund has \$61,577.20 and cash balance for all funds is \$116,134.56
- Stewardship/Jerry Leiber asked about Offering envelopes for new members. He was assumed that they have received them. Nothing else to report.
- Evangelism/Sue Kristynik had no report
- Trustees/Vernon Ekarius brought up maintenance on A/C units.

- Education/Rachael Wolf said they were in need of summer Sunday school teachers.
- Fellowship/Sherri Santoro reported that the fellowship lunch would be June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Youth/Rhonda Pavelka has no report.
- Ushers/Fred Paben had nothing to report.
- Pastor/David Vandercook reported that the current new member's class would end in July, and that he would be gone from June 13<sup>th</sup> thru June 26<sup>th</sup> for the District Convention and some vacation.
- Vice President-Long Range Planning/Dale Toellner had nothing to report.

A motion was made by Dale Toellner and seconded by Jimmie Meyer to accept all reports. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

- Pastor informed council that the MOPS group had moved to the Methodist Church. There was no other new business.
- A motion was made by Dale Toellner and seconded by Vernon Ekarius to adjourn. Motion passed.
- George Wied will have a devotional for next meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Pastor David had the closing prayer for the meeting.

*George Wied / President  
Robbyn Hill / Secretary*