



Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

TRINITY TIDBITS

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



*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
Hebrews 13:8 (ESV)*

July 2011

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:45 am Fellowship
9:05 am Sunday School
&
Bible Study
10:15 am Worship

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The other night my wife took me out for Father's Day. It was a few days after Father's Day, but there was a new restaurant that opened in Katy and we both wanted to eat there, so we delayed our celebration a few days to wait for it to open. While eating, we noticed an extended family (probably 13 or 14 people) that was eating near us. The thing that stood out to me about them was that over half of them were using some type of electronic device. They were either texting someone with their phones, calling someone with their phones, playing games on their phones, or listening to music on their phones or other digital music players. Technology has become more and more prominent as the years go by, that's for sure.

Today I encountered a similar situation. I (along with Patti Sebesta and our DCE Intern Katie Thomas) picked up one of two Ford Explorers from the airport for our Can-Do mission trip to New Orleans. This Explorer is pretty loaded when it comes to technology. I communicate with my phone so I can call people without using my hands. It plays music from my phone. The seat adjusts about 20 million different directions (I still haven't gotten it right). You see, my car doesn't have all these bells and whistles. For its day, our 1997 Geo Prizm was pretty sweet. It's got leather seats, power windows and locks, a CD player *and* a cassette player, and a sunroof. But these things are all pretty standard now (well, maybe not the cassette player).

What strikes me about all of this is how much and how fast our world changes. These changes can be intimidating (even I was a little overwhelmed when I first started up that car today) and sometimes even scary.

But we have the assurance that one thing will never change. Our God and who he will never change. He is our Creator who still provides all that we need to support this body and life. He is our Redeemer who paid the price for our sins with His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death. He is our Sanctifier who calls us into faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

In Christ

God's Blessings! Pastor Vandercook



Birthdays for the Month!



7/01	Seth Jamison	7/11	Brad Kent	7/21	Ronnie Hein
7/02	EVA KRUZEL	7/11	Heath Novosad	7/23	Mark Romano
7/04	Edna Finke	7/11	Patti Sebesta	7/24	Arnold Havemann
7/04	BRIAN GONYER	7/12	Sydney Rasbury	7/24	David Novosad
7/06	Kim Every	7/13	Theresa Duncan	7/24	Joyce Park
7/06	Janice Palm	7/15	Maydell Reichardt	7/24	Patsy Tomasek
7/06	Adam Sebesta	7/16	Rae Marie Kveton	7/25	Alan Boehm
7/07	Kirby Heintschel	7/16	Melinda Schiller	7/26	EMMA FOLTZ
7/10	Olivia Diez	7/17	Julie Ebers	7/27	Bradley Bozeman
7/10	LA SHANDA FITZGERALD	7/17	Nina Elston	7/31	David Cash
7/10	Angelia Sodolak	7/18	Robert Richter	7/31	Jerry Schroeder
7/11	Deborah Adams	7/20	Gloria Havemann		



Happy Anniversary



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

7/7/1990	Barry and Rachel Wolf	7/27/1985	Robert & Terri Julian
7/11/1991	James & Donna Smith	7/30/1994	Jerry & Melissa Schmidt
7/17/2010	Bradley and Heather Bozeman	7/30/1972	Jimmy & Ruth Szymanski
7/18/1953	Fred & Ruth Paben♥		

Please keep in your Prayers our Nursing Home Residents
Kirby Amthor Estella Meyer Ellie Michaels Eddie Svinky
Maydell Reichardt Walter Schneider Lillie Wittenburg
Estella Heintschel

Shut Ins Gladys Bolten Oridell Ekarius J. P. Gerhart
Edd and Clara Gerstenberger Joe and Bernice Hintz
Sharon Salyer Lavonn Schier



Baptism David and Brenda Cash are proud to announce Deanna Marie Cash has been received into God's Kingdom through Holy Baptism on Sunday, June 12, 2011 administered by Rev. David Vandercook.



Baptism Timothy and Angelia Ramon are proud to announce Alivia Nichole Ramon has been received into God's Kingdom through Holy Baptism on Sunday, June 19, 2011 administered by Rev. David Vandercook.



Sympathy for the family of Elgin (Zeke) Pavelka who went to be with his Lord on May 28, 2011. Please keep Norma and the rest of the family in your prayers.



Special thanks from the Elgin "Zeke" Pavelka Family!

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the kindness shown to our family after the loss of Zeke. Thank you to all of you who brought or sent food, flowers, or cards and also for all of those comforting phone calls. A special thank you to Pastor David Vandercook for all the visits during dad's illness and also the very comforting service. God is with us all, especially when we are mourning, and your presence in our lives makes that fact easier to remember and keep the faith. Thanks again.



A Special Thank You goes to Mary Buechmann for the delicious peach cobbler that she made for the preschool and office staff. There was not a bite left! Peach cobbler is the favorite of all the preschool staff and Mary's is the BEST! You are an ANGEL!

Maggie Kent, Preschool Staff and Office Staff



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



A huge THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered to help with PandaMania 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



DRIVE THRU FOR OTHERS



The first of the “Drive-Thru for Others” summer campaign sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church was held on June 17th where proceeds benefitted the Sealy Christian Food Pantry. Over 30 members and friends of the congregation worked during the 12-hour event to collect money and food for individuals and families in the Sealy community. Children who participated in the TLC Vacation Bible School were also generous donors of food and grocery items that will help to meet the needs of Sealy residents during the summer months. Approximately 2,000 pounds of food and supplies were donated with \$80 in cash specifically designated for the Sealy Christian Food Pantry. \$646 in cash was collected to benefit the Sealy Christian Food Pantry, U.S. Troops, and Sealy Elementary School Students. A special thanks to Knesek Family Funeral Chapels for providing a tent for the collection site.



Citizens of Sealy are requested to support the next scheduled drive on July 15th when supplies for U.S. Troops will be collected. Preferred Supplies for the U. S. Troops are:

Vienna Sausages, Canned Meats, Shampoo, Peanuts, Baby Wipes, Powder, Chap stick, Hand Lotion, Tuna/Cracker, Cheese/Cracker, Beef Jerky, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Telephone Cards, Paperback Books.



The last in the series of “Drive-Thru for Others” campaign will be held on August 5th when school supplies will be collected for Sealy Elementary School students. Supplies needed are:

Kleenex, Hand Sanitizers, Folders w/pockets and brads (red, yellow, blue, green, etc.), One (1) Subject Spirals w/70 sheets wide rule, Student Scissors, Backpacks w/no wheels, Pencil Boxes/Bags, 24 Count Crayola Crayons, Dry Erase markers (4 pack assorted), Crayola Markers (8 count)



Thanks to everyone who has the desire to lend a helping hand to those with special needs!

Robert Fait



If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given to you. John 15:7 (NIV)

The word 'remain' in the Gospel of John defines the relationship between believers and Christ. In this verse we see that prayer is the work of faith alone. No one except a believer can truly pray. Believers pray in the name of the Son of God, in whom they have been baptized. Believers know what we ask for will be given to us. We know that God listens to our prayers because he promised us He would and because He tells us in His Word that He will answer our prayers according to His good and perfect will. However, without remaining and abiding in Christ, this is not possible. Dear friends in Christ I ask that you examine your prayer life. Do you pray with faith, trusting that the good Lord will listen to your prayers and bring you comfort? Or do you approach prayer as something we do because it is expected of us? Do we truly believe that God answers our prayers and have faith that He will? The verse above incites us to pray boldly in faith. Unfortunately, unbelievers don't know this because they don't have faith. They live their entire lives searching for their own truth, seeking to possess more knowledge as it is the perceived key to enlightenment. Unbelievers don't understand the powerful implications the verse above can have in their daily lives because they do not have faith. We must pray for the lost to come to faith because this world is truly a hopeless place for unbelievers. According to the words of Martin Luther, in regards to unbelievers, he says, “And when we ask them whether their prayers have been heard, they reply, ‘I prayed, but if my prayers were heard, only God knows.’ If you don't know what you are doing or whether God is listening, what kind of prayer is that?”

Christians approach prayer knowing that what we ask for will be given to us because prayer is good and pleasing to God. God may not answer our prayers immediately or in the way we desire Him to but we have faith that if we pray in Christ's name, He will give us the patience and comfort we need and what we ask for will graciously be given to us. Without faith we are stumbling blindly through life. God and God alone can give us what we need, eternal life and the assurance that our prayers are always heard when we pray in faith alone. If you remain vitally connected to Christ the true vine, your faithful prayers will be heard and answered according to His will and God will give you the strength to endure.

Katie Thomas



**NARTHEX RENOVATION
DEDICATION AND APPRECIATION
LUNCHEON**

On Sunday, July 10th, we will dedicate the newly renovated Narthex during our Sunday Service. Following the service, a complimentary catered lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall. EVERYONE is invited to celebrate and to be thankful for the completion of the Narthex Renovation.

Catered lunch will be pork tenderloin and fried shrimp plus sides and dessert. Because this is a catered lunch, we are asking you to provide a response if you are attending by **Sunday, July 3rd**. Contact Sue Kristynik @ 885-4954 or Maggie @ 885-2211 if you would like to attend.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND.

This is an opportunity to celebrate God's blessings on us and be thankful for what Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior has made possible for us here at TLC.

**Mark your calendar for July 10th and
RSVP by July 3rd**. Please come out for the celebration and fellowship!

In Christ, Sue Kristynik – Chairperson of the Narthex Renovation Committee



Pantry News

In May we were able to distribute food to 185 families, which involved 626 individuals. We will always be in need of paper grocery bags. Please ask for them at the grocery store and save them for us.

On Saturday May 14th, the Sealy Postal Department had an area wide food drive to benefit the pantry. The following Tuesday morning, the postal employees delivered 1,320 pounds of food staples to us. This couldn't have come at a better time since we are trying to build up our storeroom, getting geared up for the summer. Thanks to these people for sponsoring a food drive and everyone else who showers the pantry with abundant contributions that help make this all possible.

Vernon Ekarius, Coordinator



Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center
Commit for Life.

Blood Drive will take place on Sunday July 17th at Trinity Lutheran Church 10:30 am – 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall by Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center. To schedule an appointment please visit www.giveblood.org and login to Digital Donor or contact Jimmie Meyer 979-627-0070.



The Youth Board will meet Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

AMPED (A Ministry Producing Empowered Disciples) will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays from 6-8 pm during July and August. AMPED will meet on July 17th and possibly the 31st. Come on out and learn what it means to be a committed disciple and have some fun!

Window of Hope is July 7th-9th in downtown Houston. Please keep the middle school students and parents going to serve in your prayers! Please contact Katie for details.

All youth will wash TLC member's windshields during the Narthex dedication luncheon on Sunday July 10th. This is a simple way to serve those who continue to support the youth at Trinity. We will eat immediately after we wash windows.

The high school youth will recap the New Orleans mission trip during the 10:15 am worship on Sunday, July 17, 2011. You don't want to miss it!

Camp Lonestar is July 24th-July 29th. We need an adult to go with our group. The cost is free!! Please contact Katie Thomas for more details ASAP!

AIM (Apostles in Mission) will meet Wednesday July 13th and July 27th from 6-8 pm. This is a fun program for all students entering 6th-8th grades. Don't miss out. Contact Katie Thomas for more details.



Scrapbooking will meet on Thurs. July 7th from 7pm-9pm. **Thanks! Laura**



Portals of Prayer devotional books for July, August and September are ready for you to pick up. Ask an Usher for one on Sunday mornings or you can pick one up from the tables in the narthex.



History of the Barbecue

Trinity Lutheran Church Barbecue started in 1963 after the new building project was completed of our church and additional Sunday School rooms. Pastor O. C. Schreiner was our shepherd then. The Church Council decided we would observe this with a barbecue celebration once every 5th year. The meal was almost the same as we have today except we had potato salad instead of buttered potatoes. The meal consists of barbecue chicken and sausage, potato salad, homemade bread, homemade canned pickles, beans, coffee, and ice tea. This celebration was primarily for just our members.

When Pastor Dettmer came in 1972, he convinced us to change this to every year and open it up to the public. This is the way it has been ever since. For the first years, we observed this celebration at the American Legion Hall. Soon we out grew this facility and moved to the Knights of Columbus Hall.

In the past, we have served as much as 1,000 plates and made a profit up to \$18,000 with the majority of the profit coming from the auction. Through the years, this occasion has grown to involve 22 committees in order to make it a successful event. This is a time of hard work, Christians working together, fellowship, Christians having fun, children playing games, pit side service, and letting God shine through our actions. We usually have our barbecue the second Sunday in August.



Church Barbecue – Set for August

14th We have begun to make preparations for our annual barbecue to be held Sunday, August 14th at the K. C. Hall with serving to begin at 11:00 am.

All of the committee leaders’ positions have been filled and these people are in need of your help and support. You can volunteer by calling the leader of the committee you would like to serve on. The heads of each committee are as follows:

1. Coordinator—Vernon Ekarius
2. Barbecue—Troy Tesch
3. Purchasing & Preparation—Jerry Leiber
4. Potatoes—Charles Abel and Carl Sebesta

5. Sauce & Gravy—Joe Burttshell
6. Beans—David and Carol Jean Hauschild
7. Serving Line—Mark and Robbyn Hill
8. Secretary/Publicity—Johnny & Susie Busse
9. Donations—Sue Kristynik
10. Sales—Robert Richter
11. Kitchen—Brad and Anne Biss
12. Tickets—Robert & Debbie Fait
13. Set-up & Clean-up—Bill Blume
14. Auction—George & Janice Wied
15. Serving to Go Outside—Sherri Santoro
16. Play’n for a Prize—Mary & Johanna Buechmann
17. Children’s Games—Jodine Meyer
18. Historian—Fred Paben
19. Tea & Coffee—Katie Thomas & Senior Youth
20. Desserts—Ladies Aid

Donation sheets will be in the narthex on July 3rd.

Pending Church council approval the net profit from the barbecue will be divided: 40% to Trinity Building Fund, 40% to Trinity’s General Fund, and the remaining 20% to be shared equally among the Sealy Christian Food Pantry, Helping One Another (HOA) Senior Citizens Project, Austin County Outreach, INC and Austin County Child Protective Services.

Let’s all work together to make the 2011 barbecue a profitable and successful one.



Trinity Lutheran Church BBQ

Are you ready for some barbeque—some fun—some fellowship? If your answer is yes, then mark our calendar for Sunday, August 14th. We have committees that peel potatoes, fix beans, do the actual barbecuing, fill plates, help set up auction items, work the drive - thru, sell desserts, serve tea, have kid’s games, help clean up afterwards—get the idea?? There’s a place for anyone and everyone to serve—just let us know that you are interested!! Please let Janice Wied know if you have auction items and Vernon Ekarius for more information.



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 14. 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.



Annual TLC Barbecue!

Are you ready for some barbecue – some fellowship? If your answer is yes, then mark your calendar for Sunday, August 14th. That’s the date for this year’s annual TLC barbecue at the KC Hall. It may seem like a long way off, but if you’re planning on making something for the auction, now is the time to get started on that project. Less than three months, and we’ll be there! Watch the stores for special sales, or get your artistic side in high gear – it’s so much fun to see handcrafted items that have been made with love by our friends. If you have a desire to help in any way with the fundraiser, please call the church office. We have committees that peel potatoes, fix beans, do the actual barbecuing, fill plates, help set up auction items, work the country store, sell desserts, serve tea, have kids’ games, help clean up afterwards – get the idea?—there’s a place for anyone and everyone to serve – just let us know that you are interested!! AUGUST 14TH—PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR—tell all your friends to come – it’s great food, great fellowship (in air-conditioned comfort), and a great way for us to show our love for our Savior through serving others.

One special request from the auction committees – please try to have your items at the church the day before, or even the week before. Just have your name and the fair market value of the item on a piece of paper. We will do the rest. If you need something picked up, please call George or Janice Wied at 865-8357.



&



BBQ Auction Baskets!

Altar Guild will be doing 2 BBQ auction baskets this year for the BBQ: a Gift Card basket and a Dessert of the Month basket. For the Gift Card basket, members can donate gift cards of any kind and any amount, from local or beyond, food, shopping, fun, gas, etc. These cards need to be given to Johanna Buechmann starting Sunday, July 31, at church. Once I get all the cards, the basket will be assembled. For the Dessert of the Month basket, members will sign up for a month and decide what dessert you would like to make. When it is your month, you would contact the buyer, ask when they would like their dessert, make it and deliver it. Please contact Mary Buechmann at 979-885-2730 to sign up for a month and what the dessert will be. Desserts can be cakes, pies, breads etc. Have fun and be creative. Contact Johanna Buechmann at 979-885-2730 or jlb30@peoplepc.com for any questions.

Thanks Johanna



PLAY’N FOR A PRIZE

is a new game this year to the BBQ. It takes the place of the Country Store and will be in the same location. There will be no Country Store this year. The game is like a cake walk but you can win items other than a cake. Players will pay \$1.00 for 2 tickets or 2 rounds. We are asking for at least 75 prize donations of up to \$10 to keep the game going for several hours. Prize donations needed are baked food items (cakes, pies, brownies, cookies in container, breads, muffins, cup cakes); small plants; indoor/outdoor decorations; canned items (jellies, fruit, vegetables); family games; balls; gift cards; vegetables or fruits; grocery items; older kid items; teenage items; any other items. Be creative. Non perishable items can be donated starting now by bringing them to the church office (there will be a donation box) or on Saturday, August 13 from 1 to 3 pm. Perishable items (baked foods) can be brought Sunday morning at the BBQ by 9 am. Please contact Mary or Johanna Buechmann at 979-885-2730 or jlb30@peoplepc.com for more information. We need all your help to make this a success this year and bring it back next year.

Thanks Johanna



Ladies Aid News The

Ladies Aid Society of Trinity Lutheran Church meeting was held June 2nd. Ruth Paben welcomed everyone and a guest, Carol Barrett, who became a new member.

Betty Richter gave an interesting topic, “Grandma’s Voice”.

Gifts were given to the new graduates.

The “Mite box” contribution was given for school supplies.

The church barbecue will be held August 14th.

Samantha Waxler observed her birthday on June 1st, Rose Marie Trenckmann and Betty Herridge on June 21st.

Hostesses on July 7th are Rose Marie Trenckmann and Nettie Swearingen.

Delicious refreshments furnished by members were served by Loretta Dziadek and Betty Richter and enjoyed by all.

Next meeting is July 7th, visitors are welcome.

Nettie Swearingen