



Building His Body  
By  
Reflecting the Son

# TRINITY TIDBITS

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



*“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me”*  
**Matthew 25:40 (ESV)**

**August 2011**

## 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  
Katie Thomas, DCE Intern

## ELDERS:

Alan Boehm, 885-6882  
Robert Fait, 885-7955  
Brad Biss, 713-419-2774  
Vic Grisbee, 865-5393  
Lee Hobratchk, 885-6090  
Jimmie Meyer, 627-0070  
Jim Pursley, 885-6438  
Matthew Rath, 865-8430  
Robert Richter, 885-2086  
Carl Sebesta, 865-0366  
Wes Schuknecht, 865-5142  
Barry Wolf, 877-0341

It has been wonderful to see all the acts of service to others that have been done this summer at Trinity! We've had two members, Debbie and Amanda Fait, travel to Kenya to serve on a short-term mission team. Our high school youth went on a week-long mission trip to New Orleans to help an area that is in continued need of recovery, even 6 years after Hurricane Katrina. A couple of our junior high youth went on a 3-day mission trip to downtown Houston to help improve a dilapidated area of town and bring a message of hope to many who desperately need it. Our Ichthus small group initiated a successful effort to reach others through our Drive-Thru for Others events this summer. Each of these events is a true testament to the love of Christ flowing through us and to our neighbors and those living far off.

As you read through that list, you might have noted the variety of acts of service that have occurred. Needs were met for people physically, socially, and spiritually. Needs were met here in Sealy, in Houston, in New Orleans, in Kenya, and to troops deployed around the world.

The words above from Matthew 25 were stated by Jesus as He described to His disciples the expectations of those who followed Him.

There is no doubt that we fail again and again at serving our neighbor. We are more often more concerned with looking out for our interests, both as individuals and as a congregation. Thanks be to God that He has sent His son to forgive us for our selfishness. By His death and resurrection, he has paid the price necessary to grant us eternal life. Not only that, He enables us, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to seek not our interests, but the interests of those whom He has called us to serve.

I commend the saints of Trinity for answering the bell this summer, but I encourage you to not be content! Continue to seek ways in which you can serve the needs of others. Consider the upcoming trip that's being planned to bring relief to the Joplin, MO area. Consider serving on a short-term mission trip. Or simply consider looking for ways to meet the needs of those in our community who need extra attention. Visit with some of our home bound, ill, or injured members. There are all kinds of ways to share the love of Christ in practical ways!

In Christ,  
Pastor Vandercook



**SPECIAL MEETING** on August 7, we will have a special voters meeting to decide whether or not we will designate Katie Thomas for a call as a DCE at Trinity beginning in 2012.



# 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 | MORGAN RASBURY    |
| 8/09 | Krishna Langton    | 8/15 | Pat Schmidt        | 8/26 | BRENNA 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          | 8/18 | Alton Kveton       | 8/28 | Linda Kollatschny |
| 8/11 | Cheryl Steinhauser | 8/20 | Betty Luedecke     | 8/29 | COLE RASBURY      |
| 8/11 | TARA HOBBS         | 8/20 | GAGE NEELEY        | 8/31 | Rae Terrell       |
| 8/12 | MACKENZIE LEE      |      |                    |      |                   |



# 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 ♥ | 8/27/1967 | Alfred and Patsy Tomasek     |
| 8/5/1962  | Charles and Karen Every      | 8/28/1999 | Ronnie and Leann Hein        |
| 8/7/2010  | John and Nichol Fullen       | 8/29/1964 | Lee Allen and Janice Palm    |
| 8/11/1973 | Johnny & Joan Griffin        | 8/30/1980 | Charles and Barbara Havemann |
| 8/13/1994 | James and Jo-Anne Gilliam    |           |                              |



Please keep in your Prayers our Nursing Home Residents

*Kirby Amthor 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 Brett Carter and Brittany Kulhanek are

proud to announce Case Michael Carter has been received into God's Kingdom through Holy Baptism on Sunday, July 10, 2011 administered by Rev. David Vandercook.



Sympathy for the family of Estella Alberta

Meyer who went to be with her Lord on July 3, 2011.

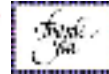
Please keep the family in your prayers.



**The Girl Scouts of Central Texas thanks you!**

**Thank you so much for allowing the Girl Scouts to use your church for our Sew Glam Event. We had eight girls who enjoyed leaning to sew and knit.**

**Sincerely Gayle Turner**

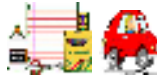


Christian Friends:

Thanks for supporting the "Drive-Thru" for Troops last Friday. Your work and/or donations helped to make this event a tremendous success. Seventy-seven (77) troops who are serving abroad will receive a package filled with supplies and the gospel message that reflects our love for God and mankind. It is wonderful to contribute as a team to serve others!

May God continue to bless you and members of your family.

In His Service,  
The Faits



**Drive Thru for Others** The last in the series of "Drive-Thru for Others" campaign will be held on August 5<sup>th</sup> 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**



CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION

*"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven"*  
(Matthew 5:16. NIV).

This verse from Matthew 5 was the theme verse for Can-Do this year. As we served in NOLA, God sent his Spirit to work in and through us so that we could serve like Jesus. It was awesome to see God shining in the lives of our youth group and to see them reflecting the light of Christ in other people's lives. God always does amazing work on mission trips. As you serve others, you in turn become the hands and feet of Jesus, faithfully going where He sends you. Transformation is an inevitable part of the mission trip process and looking back on the work God did, I am so grateful to have been a part of this incredible life-changing event.

Reflecting on the themes and thoughts that were present in my mind on the trip, two things come to mind. One is the continual importance of relationships and the bonding that occurs when you serve so closely with the same group of people over a week's time. Secondly, I learned the importance of avoiding the temptation of making our service more about us and about what we do rather than making it about serving God and what God is doing through us. This was a powerful lesson TLC's youth group learned while serving in New Orleans. Let me share with you my experience in learning this lesson and the impact it made on my faith. God showed me that sometimes service requires us to do things we don't want to do, but the rewards we get in return are priceless. We are not the source of our light. We have no light of our own. Without Christ, we cannot shine like Jesus.. Everything we do is about God and what He is doing through us rather than what we are doing for ourselves. This humbling, Holy Spirit inspired thought came to me when we were serving at a VBS at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

I must admit that I lack many of the gifts that are necessary for effective VBS ministry. But, God wisely gives each of us different gifts for

different reasons, which all work together for His glory and purpose. The VBS at Gloria Dei was unlike any VBS I have experienced. I am accustomed to VBS with well-mannered children, vibrant decorations, and polished programs which naturally exude an overall atmosphere of order and structure. Despite the fact that various individuals at Camp Restore had shared their experiences of tumultuous brouhaha at Gloria Dei and had forewarned me that impending chaos awaited us, I casually shrugged off their dire warnings and remained convinced that it couldn't possibly be that challenging. I thought to myself, these children just need an extra dose of Christ's love! After-all, kids are kids, I'm sure it's no different than any other VBS. Needless to say, my perceptions quickly changed when the children arrived. I instantly wished I had had that extra cup of coffee I was advised to drink by Alyssa and Peter, two of Camp Restore's college interns from Concordia Texas. As I faced the hullabaloo of anarchy, I was certain that a second cup of coffee was no match for the unsurpassable energy they possessed....I would have needed an entire pot of caffeine! They were a clever bunch of pint-sized nonconformists with an ever present desire to create negative attention and disorder. They did this by throwing tantrums, displaying alarming levels of disobedience, fighting each other (including physically fighting our youth, but I'll get into that at a later date), and running around blatantly disregarding any form of discipline.

Although they were beyond challenging, let me describe to you the sad social context in which these children are growing up in. Many of these children come from impoverished homes where parental involvement is limited or not present. Some of their parents died in Katrina when they were babies, leaving a void in their lives as they are forced to grow up without parental guidance. One child, Tyrone was the victim of a drive by shooting and survived a shot straight through his arm when he was just a toddler. He is now 8 years old and has a scar on his arm to prove it. These children are victims of the environment in which they are being raised in and unfortunately, they do not know better. They are desperate for acceptance and Christ-like love.

Although it was the most mentally draining and exasperating day of service in New Orleans,

God showed me so much by working with these kids. I have been told that perhaps I'm not much of a "kid person," which tells you that this experience was outside of my comfort zone....but isn't that what mission trips are about? Isn't part of the mission trip experience about being receptive to flexibility and being open to living outside your means of comfort? Serving others isn't always comfortable, it's not something we always want to do, but God uses your discomfort in mighty ways because it is at these moments when you rely on Him completely. It is when you are removed from your comfort zone that you realize the multitude of blessings God has graciously given you and truly allow your relationship with God to grow to a new and exciting level of intimacy and understanding.

I was humbled by this experience, sharing Christ's love with these children, because I relied on God to give me the patience, strength, love, energy, and wisdom I needed, making it impossible for me to take the glory for myself. I was reminded of the need to rely on God for everything and give Him the glory in all facets of my life instead of falling into the tendency of seeking glory for myself, which is foolish and prideful. Despite my internal desire to run straight for the door after hours upon hours of constant chaos, I formed relationships with a few of the children and was able to share Jesus with them. God even used me along with Katie Sebesta to walk two children through the process of forgiveness and reconciliation. Although I laugh to myself at the realization that this experience has reminded me of the many reasons why I am nowhere near ready to have children of my own yet, I am grateful for the ways in which God transformed me and the ways in which it drew me closer to my Lord and Savior.

I would like to leave you with a closing thought from scripture. I am reminded of Philippians 2:12-16 which says, *"Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation" Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of*

*life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain" (NIV).* You are living in a "warped and depraved generation." However, you shine like stars and hold true to God's Word because God has deposited in you His light. You will be surrounded by other lights (other Christians) but also by people dwelling in darkness (those who don't believe in Jesus). It is my prayer that each of us continue to receive the light of Christ and help shine Christ's light to those who are dwelling in darkness. This mission experience richly blessed my life. TLC's youth will continue to shine Christ's light into Sealy's community as well as on future mission trips!

**Katie Thomas**



**Pantry News** In June we were able to reach out and furnish food to 290 families, which helped feed 915 individuals. In addition to our regular distribution, we also distributed food to 139 families that had 330 children of school age on our summer school lunch program. As you can see, a lot of food was given out for the month.

On Friday June 17<sup>th</sup>, the members at Trinity sponsored an area wide food drive titled Drive thru for Others to benefit the food pantry. That evening toward the end of the food drive, some of our members delivered the food to the pantry, assorted the food, and put them into the appropriate area to either be used or into the storage area. There was approximately 2,200 pounds of food delivered to the pantry of which 700 pounds came from a week long collection from the kids attending Vacation Bible School at Trinity and the remaining 1,500 pounds from the Drive thru for Other's food collection. This couldn't have happened at a better time since we are giving regular food out plus food for summer lunch program that coincides with the school's free lunch program. Thanks to everyone for their contribution of food and for sponsoring the food drives. There was also \$80.00 collected that will be used to purchase food.

**Vernon Ekarius**





## BARBECUE UPDATE!

The time is almost here for our Annual Barbecue scheduled this year for August 14<sup>th</sup> at the K. C. Hall on Hwy 90 West. Serving will begin at 11:00 AM. Plates will be \$8.00. A convenient Drive-Thru has been added for the “to go” plates in addition to the traditional way to pick up plates.

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 have 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 Outreach, Inc., and Austin County Child Protective Services.

Donation sign-up sheets will be in the narthex through August 7<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of 50 quarts of home-canned pickles, 65 loaves of homemade bread, cakes and pies, and cash donations. The Barbecue Committee is asking that cash contributions 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 979-885-4954.

Anyone who can peel potatoes: this will be done Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at the Fellowship Hall. Potato Peelers: Bring your peeling knives.

New this year will be a Play’n for a Prize. For a small fee you will be able to try to win a prize, such as a dessert, plant, or a surprise. Contact Mary Ruth or Johanna Buechmann at 885-2730 if you are interested in donating to this game. Jodine Meyer, together 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. This year 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 2011 Barbecue another successful one.

## Barbecue Needs!



**PICKLES – BREAD – PIES – CAKES - BAKED GOODS ARE NEEDED FOR THE BAR-B-QUE!!!**

We need the following for our upcoming Bar-B-Cue:

- 50 Quarts of Pickles
- 65 Loaves of Homemade Bread
- Pies, Cakes, or any baked good to be sold by Ladies Aide as desserts for meals.

Anyone interested in helping with the above items can sign up in the Narthex. Sheets are located on the bulletin board near the Ladies Restroom. If you have any questions, please call Sue Kristynik @ 885-4954 or email @ [sue.kristynik@shell.com](mailto:sue.kristynik@shell.com). Your help with this will be greatly appreciated. God’s Blessings and thanks! Sue



## BBQ Games!

Trinity Lutheran Church Barbecue will like to have Intermediate and Jr. High Kids sign up to supervise and be in charge of a particular game. There will be different shifts beginning at 10:45 am until 1:00 pm. The fun games you can supervise are: Go Fish, Ring Toss, Penny Toss, Plinko, and Mini Golf. Check out the bulletin board in the narthex and sign up where you would like to participate! If you have any questions, please contact one s or Jodine Meyer.



Trinity Lutheran Preschool has a new requirement from State Licensing. The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services is working to ensure child care providers have emergency preparedness plans in the event of a natural disaster, and that we report the whereabouts and condition of children in our care after an evacuation.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool has developed and completed an Emergency/Disaster Plan to include that the staff are trained and orientated on the use of fire extinguishers, location of fire extinguishers, utility control on how to turn off gas, water and electricity to the building, location of electrical panels, knowledge of our emergency evacuation floor plan, evacuation procedure and our medical response drill.

The teachers will practice their regular fire and severe weather drills with the children. New practice drills that will be conducted are Reverse Evacuation, Shelter in Place and Lock Down. These drills are to insure the safety of the children in case of stranger intruder, sudden change in weather, something dangerous outside, non-custodial parent, parent/guardian under the influence of a substance or hostage situation etc.

Teachers and children will be trained to the codes of each disaster drill. A Chain of Command Response Team will explain the person/position duty which are needed to fulfill to ensure the safety of the children.

Preschool is also required by the state to have a Ready Kit for three days. This includes water supply of 1.5 gallons per child each day and one gallon of water per each adult per day. The preschool will also keep on hand three days of food supplies, disposable plates, utensils, manual can opener, bottle opener and cups.

Preschool is required to have an Administrative Supply Bag which will include the supplies along with the emergency contact forms for children and employees and student release log. Each classroom will have a Grab and Go Bag with required supplies listed to be placed in the bags.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church has given written permission to use their

facility if the preschool had to evacuate in case of an emergency.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool is required to orientate all parents of the Disaster Plan upon enrolling their children into the program. One parent of each family must sign the parent acknowledgement form that they have been orientated in the preschool disaster preparedness plan required by state. Each classroom will have the plan for anyone to review but it must not leave the classroom.

I would like to thank Charlie Sams for developing a floor plan with room locations along with the required fire extinguisher, pull alarms, electrical panels, safe zone areas, gas and water meter and an evacuation route to the Catholic Church and more. Preschool is so blessed with members with the gifts and talents to follow through with so many projects and plans.

Now that preschool has indentified a plan we encourage everyone to have an evacuation plan for home, especially when you have children in different schools.

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27.*

*In Christ, Ms. Maggie*



### **Ladies Aid News**

The meeting of Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid was held Thursday, July 7. Ruth Paben welcomed everyone.

Betty Richter gave an interesting program on "Eve Women of the Bible."

Hostesses for the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting are Elfrieda Holtkamp and Ruby Emshoff.

Rose Marie Trenckmann and Ruby Emshoff who served in place of Nettie Swearingen were hostesses on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

The barbecue on August 14<sup>th</sup> was discussed. Ruth and Fred Paben are married 58 years this July.

Refreshments provided by members were served by hostesses and enjoyed.

Visitors are welcome to attend the meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Nettie Swearingen**



## “Early Morning” Bible

### Study to Begin in August!

Here’s an opportunity for spiritual growth for the early risers at TLC! A new Bible study group will begin meeting at 5:15 a.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of each month beginning on August 3rd. The “Early Morning” Bible Study is designed to accommodate the busy schedule of working and retired individuals who wish to begin their day in Bible Study and in prayer with other believers. The fall study will focus on improving our personal prayer life. Come join us before beginning your daily routine as we strive for spiritual and personal growth. The studies will conclude at approximately 6:00 a.m. We’re flexible-----if you need to leave earlier in order to get to work on time, please feel free to leave according to the needs of your personal schedule! Coffee and juice will be served. Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity. We’re looking forward to seeing you at 5:15 a.m. in the kitchen-area of the Fellowship Center on Wednesday, August 3rd.



## Ladies Bible Study

### Resuming in August

The Ladies Bible Study will resume on Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 6:30 p.m. Our study will begin in the Book of Acts. “As the Gospel accounts come to a close with Jesus’ ascension, the focus of scripture turns to the work of the apostles and others in their efforts to spread the good news about Jesus throughout the world, and to the beginnings of the church, which is comprised of Christ’s faithful disciples.” Beginning in Acts, we will progress chronologically through the New Testament! Everyone in welcome! Studies will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month with adjustments being made to avoid holidays. Listed below is the schedule for August:

August 1<sup>st</sup> Acts 1:1-Acts 6:7  
 August 15<sup>th</sup> Acts 6:8-Acts 11:30  
 \*August 29<sup>th</sup> Acts 12:1-Acts 15:35  
 \*Study will replace September 5<sup>th</sup>, which is the Labor Day Holiday.



## Kenya Mission Project

Salem Lutheran Church in Tomball has served as a world missions mentor congregation for Trinity Lutheran Church. Several members of TLC have participated in mission trips to the Honduras and to Kenya in the past that have been sponsored by Salem Lutheran. We have again been invited to participate in the fall, 2011 trip to Kenya that is scheduled for November 10<sup>th</sup> thru November 20<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Robert Fait (979-885-7955) or Alan Boehm (979-885-6882) if you are interested in traveling to Kenya for this medical mission trip where the goal is to “use the Great Commandment to accomplish the Great Commission.” Commitments are needed by approximately August 1<sup>st</sup>.



## World Mandate

World Mandate is a conference for anyone who loves Jesus and wants to know more about his heart for the nations of the world! Located in Waco, Texas at Baylor University's Ferrell Center, people of all ages from all over the country gather together for this weekend to worship Jesus, intercede for the nations, and hear from speakers who have lived out the mission of Jesus all over the world.

The conference will be focused on the passion that Jesus has in his heart to reach the nations. We believe this is a passion Jesus wants to place in every believer’s heart, whether or not you ever live in a foreign country. World Mandate exists to help believers become more aware of what Jesus is doing in the earth! Please consider attending this incredible conference. Several members of TLC are planning to attend the event on September 16-18 in Waco. Join us for this powerful weekend! Registration materials and more information at <http://www.worldmandate.com/>





## Youth News!

The youth board will meet Wednesday, August 3, 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 August 7th and 21st. Come on out and have some fun learning what it means to be a committed disciple!

Fairweather retreat: Looking for a fun way to end the summer before another year of high school? Join us for an awesome retreat to Fairweather in Kerrville, Texas August 4-6. All students entering 9th-12th grade are welcome to attend! We will be combining our group with the youth at Memorial Lutheran Church in Katy. The deadline to rsvp is Sunday, July 31st. I need at least one adult to join us as well!

Don't miss out! Please contact Katie Thomas for additional information and details. Katie@tlcsealy.org

Splashway event: Are you in Intermediate or Jr High and looking to do something fun? Please join us Tuesday, August 2nd for a splashing good time at Splashway in Sheridan, Texas. Please bring \$10 and pack a sack lunch. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Brenda Cash or Katie Thomas.

TLC Youth is in need of help with the tea at the Barbecue. If you are interested in helping please contact Katie Thomas or sign the sign up sheet in the Narthex and on the glass room window.

AIM (Apostles in Mission) will meet Wednesday August 10th from 6-8 pm.

Join us on the 10th for a fun scavenger hunt! This is a fun program for all students entering 6-8th grades. Don't miss out! Contact Katie Thomas for more details.

Intermediate Youth will meet on Monday, August 29th from 3:00-4:30 pm.

If you are in grades 4th-5th, come on out for some fun!

**Katie Thomas**



## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING May 9, 2011

Minutes of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting, held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Sealy, Texas, on May 9, 2011 in the Fellowship Building. Members present were:

**George Wied**- President  
**Linda Blume**- Treasurer  
**Jerry Leiber**- Stewardship  
**Sue Kristynik**-Evangelism & Fellowship  
**Vernon Ekarius** – Trustees  
**Jimmie Meyer** – Elders  
**Leslie Pacher** - Education  
**Robert Richter**- Ushers  
**Ann Reay**-Secretary  
**Katie Thomas**-DCE Intern  
**Dale Leland**  
**Pastor David Vandercook**

George Wied, presiding, called the meeting to order followed by devotion.

### Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the April 11, 2011 meeting were read. A motion to pass was made by Linda Blume and seconded by Jimmie Meyer. Motion passed.

### Unfinished Business

- **Update on Narthex remodeling:** Project is about 80% completed. We still need some fixtures and flooring. An appreciation luncheon is being planned.
- **Update on Web site page:** The website is currently being designed.
- **Church Directory:** We will re-visit at a later date. George will mention to approach the idea at a church service. Pastor Vandercook will create a “phone poll” to see if the congregation is ready to take on this effort. A motion to table this issue till a later date was made by Jerry Leiber and seconded by Jimmie Meyer. Motion passed.

### Reports

- **Treasurer** The Treasurer’s report was presented for review by Linda Blume. The cash balance in the General Fund is (6,280.16) on April 30, 2011. A motion to move the balance in the Hope to Others account of \$1044.74 to Caring for One Another was made by Sue



Kristynik and seconded by George Wied.  
Motion passed.

- **Stewardship** – Jerry Leiber did not have anything to report.
- **Evangelism** – Sue Kristynik represented Evangelism. The Elders have been given a spreadsheet with details pertaining to feedback from the Easter Basket project. This will be useful for the Elders in the follow up process. There is a forward focus on following up with guests and “market research”.
- **Trustees** – Vernon Ekarius represented the Trustees: Work Day had a great turn out. The church pew has been reduced in size for the handicap area. The kitchen vent hood was professionally cleaned. A/C was cleaned by Richter Air at which time it was learned that one of the units is not in working order. Bids for replacement are in the process of being obtained to replace the unit. We received a clear termite report.
- **Elders** – Jimmie Meyer represented the Elders. We are looking into revising the communion statements. Patsy and Beverly will pick up the attendance sheets in church.
- **Education** – Leslie Pacher reported that the VBS still needs volunteers. The Memorial Day presentation will be on May 29<sup>th</sup>. The annual church BBQ needs help with planning the children’s events.
- **Fellowship** Sue Kristynik reported the Easter Breakfast was a huge success. The love offering will be presented to the youth for their mission trip. A June event may be combined with a Narthex Renovation Appreciation Luncheon. TLC will have a page in the Sealy News Worship Guide.
- **Ushers** – Robert Richter did not have anything to report

A motion was made by Leslie Pacher to accept the reports as presented, motion seconded by Jimmie Meyer. Motion passed.

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### New Business

- Maggie has requested use of the upstairs and the gym for the Childcare Conference on 9-10-11 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. A motion to approve was made by Jimmie Meyer and seconded by Dale Leland. Motion passed

- The Lions Club requested use of the gym on June 7, 2011 from 5:00 to 9:00 for an officer installation ceremony. Motion to approve was made by Leslie Pacher and seconded by Dale Leland. Motion passed.
- A request has been made by Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care for a donation to support a land purchase. The request will be forwarded to the head of the Mission Outreach budget.
- Credit Card: Wells Fargo can issue cards to the church. Linda Blume will go with Pastor Vandercook to set up the credit card account with Pastor Vandercook, Katie Thomas and Maggie Kent as signatories. There will be a limit established by the bank. A motion to allow as stated above was made by Jimmie Meyer and seconded by Linda Blume.
- Church Constitution: Pastor Vandercook will assemble a constitution review committee to address some areas of conflict in the current constitution.
- Icthus Bible Study group would like to use the parking lot for some summer outreach events:
  - 6-17-11 Food Pantry, food gathering and donations
  - 7-15-11 Care Packages for Troops with American Legion
  - August Event to collect school supplies (date to be determined)A motion to allow the use for the purposes stated above was made by Jerry Leiber and seconded by Jimmie Meyer. Motion passed.

Dale Leland made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jimmie Meyer. The meeting ended with a prayer by Pastor Vandercook. Jimmie Meyer will provide the devotional for the next meeting.

Our next meeting will be on June 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

George Wied, President  
Ann Reay, Secretary



**TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 13, 2011**

Minutes of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting, held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Sealy, Texas, on June 13, 2011 in the Fellowship Building.

Members present were:

George Wied – President  
Linda Blume – Treasurer  
Sherri Santoro – Fellowship  
Jerry Leiber - Stewardship  
Fred Paben - Ushers  
Vernon Ekarius – Trustees  
Jimmie Meyer – Elders  
Leslie Pacher - Education  
Pastor David Vandercook  
Katie Thomas - DCE

George Wied, presiding, called the meeting to order. Jimmie Meyer opened the meeting with a devotion followed by a prayer from Pastor Vandercook.

**Minutes from Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were not available.

**Business/Old Business**

- **Update on Narthex/Decorating** –The narthex renovation project is almost complete. A few finishing items will be completed over the next few weeks. The dedication of the narthex will be held on July 10 during the worship service, followed by a thank you lunch.
- **Update on Web Site Page** – Work is continuing on the web site page. It will soon be turned over to church staff/members to maintain.
- **Church Directory** – After the barbecue is completed, the congregation will be polled on their interest in updating the church directory.
- **Update on Constitution Restructuring Committee** – Pastor Vandercook is forming a committee for this purpose.

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**Reports**

- **Treasurer** – Linda Blume reviewed the Treasurer's Report. The cash balance in the General Fund is (\$11,186.37). The Building

Fund has a cash balance of \$49,294.39. Our total cash balance is \$82,978.10.

- **Stewardship** – Jerry Leiber represented Stewardship. There were no Stewardship items to report this month.
  - **Evangelism** – Sherri Santoro represented Evangelism. There were no Evangelism items to report this month.
  - **Trustees** – Vernon Ekarius represented the Trustees. The air conditioner in the Fellowship Hall has been replaced.
  - **Elders** – Jimmie Meyer represented the Elders. We need to find a chairperson for the Youth Board. Also, we need to get a committee together for the DCE call process.
  - **Education** – Leslie Pacher represented Education. VBS has begun. Rally Sunday is September 4. There will be games for the children at the barbecue. Mission Sunday will be held once a quarter for the children. They will work on various projects such as packing boxes for Operation Children.
  - **Fellowship** – Sherri Santoro represented the Fellowship committee. The Fellowship committee will assist with the Narthex Renovation Dedication luncheon on July 10. The next fellowship event will be in late August/early September. Octoberfest will be held again this year.
  - **Youth** – No report.
  - **Ushers** – Fred Paben represented the Ushers. There were no Ushers items to report this month.
  - **Pastor Vandercook** – Pastor currently has 3 members appointed to the Constitution Restructuring Committee. He is waiting to hear from 2 other people. The web site page update is ongoing.
  - **Long Range Planning** – No report.
- Fred Paben made a motion to accept the reports as presented, seconded by Jimmie Meyer the motion passed.

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**New Business**

- **Appoint Someone to be Chairman of the Youth Board** – Debbie Rath and Mark Hill have both expressed interest in being chairman of the Youth Board. Jimmie Meyer made a motion to appoint Debbie Rath as chairman, seconded by Linda Blume. Motion passed.



## The Music Ministry Team Needs You!

The Music Ministry schedule for the fall is now available. The Choir, Handbell Choir, and Praise Team provide opportunities to further God's Kingdom through the beautiful gift of music. Members of these organizations are dedicated to using their God-given talents to share the good news using music as a tool to convey the message of salvation.

We need more members of the congregation to consider joining the Choir. The Choir will participate in seven regularly-scheduled worship services during the fall singing a variety of anthems with culminating musical offerings featured in the annual Christmas Cantata on December 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. When we approach individuals about singing in the Choir, the response is often "I can't sing very well." or "I don't have time." We maintain that service in the Music Ministry is not so much about musical talent, but rather excellence of the heart. All of us possess gifts that are good to offer not only to God but also to our congregation. We welcome everyone to participate in the Choir who possess a heart for service and a love of music! There are no auditions to become a member of the choir.

Prayerfully consider participating in the Choir this fall. Give it a try! Mark your calendars and plan to be present at the first rehearsal on Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. If you are unable to be present at this rehearsal, the first evening rehearsal is scheduled for Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 p.m. as we will start practicing for the Christmas Cantata.

The word "minister" means servant. Please consider becoming a member of the Music Ministry Team and serve others as we lead worshippers in communicating the love of Christ through song. Let us faithfully be about our Father's business!

If you have questions about the Choir or the Music Ministry, please contact Robert or Debbie Fait at 979-885-7955 or [faitrdda1@aol.com](mailto:faitrdda1@aol.com).  
In His Service,  
Robert and Debbie Fait

- **Various Correspondence to the Church** – Thank you cards were received from Honeycutt Air and from Leslie Pacher and the high school prom students for use of the tables.
- **Various Requests to Use the Fellowship Hall** – A request was received from Julie Stastny for use of the Fellowship Hall and playground once a month for a Community Youth Event. Various issues were discussed including liability. Vernon Ekarius made a motion to turn down this request, second by Fred Paben. Motion passed.
- **Mission to China** – Pastor Vandercook's parents are going to China for mission work. \$32,000 is needed by the end of August. Pastor has asked the congregation on an individual basis to help with donations. He would also like the congregation to make a donation if possible. George Wied will discuss with Alan Boehm to see if there are funds in the Mission Outreach budget.
- **Call Process for DCE** – A committee needs to be set up for making a call for a DCE. Katie's internship ends December 31, 2011. A minimum of 5 people are needed, 2 of those being elders. The Pastor is getting clarification from Dr. Youmans in Austin on the DCE call process guidelines. The call would begin January 1, 2012. George Wied volunteered to be on the committee. The congregation will be asked for volunteers.
- **Narthex Upkeep** – Vernon Ekarius has heard some concerns regarding keeping the narthex in good condition now that it has been remodeled. Various concerns were discussed such as taping items on the walls and glass which leaves residue. Discussion was held regarding various solutions. Vernon Ekarius made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Jimmie Meyer. The Motion passed. Pastor Vandercook closed the meeting with a prayer.

Our next meeting will be on July 11 at 7:00 p.m.  
George Wied will give the devotion.  
George Wied, President  
Sheri Santoro in place of Ann Reay, Secretary



| <b>Date</b> | <b>Choir</b>  | <b>Bell Choir</b> | <b>Praise Team</b> | <b>Notes</b>                          |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 28-Aug      | *             | R                 | RW                 | Celebration Sunday                    |
| 4-Sep       | RW            | WR                | R                  |                                       |
| 11-Sep      | CR            | R                 | RW                 | Celebration Sunday                    |
| 18-Sep      | *             | *                 | *                  | World Mandate                         |
| 25-Sep      | CR            | R                 | *                  |                                       |
| 2-Oct       | RW            | WR                | R                  |                                       |
| 9-Oct       | CR            | R                 | RW                 | Celebration Sunday/<br>Mission Sunday |
| 16-Oct      | RW            | WR                | R                  |                                       |
| 23-Oct      | CR            | R                 | RW                 | Celebration Sunday                    |
| 30-Oct      | RW            | WR                | *                  | Reformation Sunday                    |
| 6-Nov       | RW/CR         | WR                | *                  |                                       |
| 13-Nov      | CR Sectionals | R                 | RW                 | Celebration Sunday                    |
| 20-Nov      | RW            | WR                | R                  |                                       |
| 27-Nov      | CR            | R                 | RW                 | Celebration Sunday                    |
| 4-Dec       | W             | W                 | *                  | Cantata Weekend                       |
| 11-Dec      | *             | *                 | RW                 | Celebration Sunday                    |
| 18-Dec      | *             | *                 | *                  |                                       |
| 25-Dec      | *             | *                 | *                  | Christmas Day                         |

Choir Morning Rehearsal (R) 8:00 a.m. Cantata Rehearsal (CR) 5:00 p.m.  
 Bell Rehearsal 4:00 p.m. and 8:45 a.m. when participating in Worship Service  
 Praise Team Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. when participating in Worship Service  
 Cantata Rehearsal (CR): Sept. 11, 25, Oct. 9, 23, Nov. 6, 27 at 5:00 p.m.  
 Cantata Sectional Rehearsal: Nov. 13 Ladies at 5:00 and Men at 6:00  
 Cantata Final Rehearsals on Nov, 29 and Dec. 1 at 7:00 p.m.  
 Cantata: Dec. 2 at 7:00 p.m. and Dec. 4 at 2:00 p.m.