



**Building His Body
By
Reflecting the
Son**

May 2013

**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**

**Vacancy Pastor
Gilbert Franke**

**Maggie Kent, Office
Secretary**

ELDERS:

**Lowell Coody, 865-
9638
Lee Hobrathschk, 885-
6090
Bobby Barrett, 885-
3450
Gene Remmert, 885-
3886
Tracy Schiller, 865-
2748
Joel Grigar, 885-1415**

TRINITY TIDBITS

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



IT'S A TOUGH JOB

It's a tough job to be a mother! (I know this only from observation! I have had no first hand experience, but I know a few good mothers well!)

I have known the constant, unconditional love of my own mother, who let me try and fail and struggle and grow. She was always there when times were tough, but didn't bind me close with crippling restrictions. She held up high expectations, but didn't withhold support when her hopes were not met. It seemed so easy growing in her love that I took it for granted and thought it was just the natural, easy way that life should be.

I have seen the other side of that same kind of love in the mother of my children. I have seen her struggle to turn loose of the present so they may embrace the future. I have seen her protect and defend and support and nurture. She lets them risk failure and pain and hurt in order to grow. She treads the tight rope between wanting the best for her children and still loving in them spite of disappointments. She is filled with pride for each special accomplishment but is not destroyed by any defeat.

I have begun to appreciate my mother's love more since I have seen it from the other side. I know that love in all human relationships is not perfect. The best of it is modeled on God's love for his people. St. Paul wrote: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV)

Another way to express these attributes of love, although certainly not as eloquently, is "love always tries to bring out the best in others." That is the way God loves us. He loves us just as we are, but because of His love for us He wants us to grow into someone better. In His love He has reached across the distance that separated us from Him. Jesus is the embodiment of God's love. "For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross." (Colossians 1:19-20 NIV)

I marvel how God accepts me with all my failures, rebellion, and self-centeredness and at the same time urges me to grow in new relationships, obedience, and service to others! Surely when God looks at each one of us there is a dynamic struggle in His divine heart between His love for us even the way we are and the hope of what He knows we could be.

In the pattern of God's love, we give thanks to Him for the love of our mothers and those who loved us like mothers, always wanting to bring out the best in us, yet unable to keep themselves from accepting us completely even in our failures, for we have learned to love from them.

Pastor Gilbert Franke



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the Month!



5/01	CAMERON Hein	5/13	Justin Tesch	5/23	Braden Meyer
5/01	James Sneed	5/14	Matthew Kieke	5/23	Melvin Schmidt
5/03	Bambi Thrasher	5/14	Cynthia Sodolak	5/24	Susie Toellner
5/03	BREANNA CONTRERAS	5/14	Kent Michaels	5/25	Angela Putt
5/05	Karen Naida	5/14	Sterling Schiller	5/26	Madison Lee
5/06	Rhonda Fitzgerald	5/15	Bonnie Reay	5/27	Viola Sebesta
5/09	George Baade	5/16	Amanda Barbosa	5/28	RACHEL PINKLEY
5/09	Robin Jacobson	5/17	Geraldine Stuessel	5/29	ZOEY RAMSEY
5/10	David Hauschild	5/17	Ellie Michaels	5/29	Brody Schiller
5/10	Barbara Vohs	5/17	Kerry Pavelka	5/30	JAMIE PUTT
5/10	Krystal Schneider	5/18	Scott Stuessel	5/30	Brittney Steinhauser
5/11	CALEB KRUZEL	5/19	Don Henry	5/30	COLE TESCH
5/11	Brittany Foerster	Elgien Konesheck		5/31	LINDSEY DZIADEK
		5/22	ERIK JULIAN		



Happy Anniversary



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

5/02/1992	Dean and Robin Jacobson	5/20/1978	Robert and Debbie Fait
5/10/1969	Bill and Linda Blume	5/21/1961	Jerry and Dolores Cain
5/12/1979	Robert and Barbara Vohs	5/24/1980	Robert and Donna Emshoff
5/16/1981	Jay and Marla Sams	5/25/1991	Carl and Patti Sebesta



Please keep in your Prayers our Nursing Home Residents

**Ellie Michaels Eddie Svinky Lillie Wittenburg
Estella Heintschel Kirby Heintschel Louise Kinsey**

Shut Ins

**Edd and Clara Gerstenberger Bernice Hintz
Lavonn Schier Joyce Meyer**

Buechmann, Bobby and Geraldine Barrett and everyone else who participated before and after the Easter Pancake Breakfast. You made this event joyful for all to fellowship. Everyone is greatly appreciated, Fellowship Chairperson, Norma Pavelka



Sympathy for the family of Joe Hintz who went to be with his Lord on Monday, April 8, 2013. Please keep his wife Bernice and the rest of the family in your prayers.



Chicken Fried Chicken Dinner Fundraiser!



The family of Joe Hintz would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the Ladies Aid of Trinity Lutheran Church. Your thoughtfulness during this difficult time was a blessing to our family. God's peace to you all.

Family of Joe Hintz

Trinity Lutheran Church will be participating in a Chicken Fried Chicken Dinner Fundraiser coordinated by Maggie Kent and Mary Buechmann for the church. All proceeds are going to the church. This will take place on Thursday, June 6, 2013 5:00 pm-6:30 pm. The meal will consist of chicken fried chicken, green beans, potatoes, gravy and homemade bread. The cost of the plate is \$9.00. You can purchase tickets from the church office or before and after the worship services. Deadline to purchase your tickets will be June 2nd. Please contact Maggie Kent or Mary Buechmann for more information or for tickets.



The Fellowship Committee would like to say a very huge thank you to Lee Hobratsch and Jerry Leiber for flipping pancakes and thank you to Pat, Mary, and Johanna

First Communion Celebration

March 28, 2013



Trinity Lutheran Church Sealy, Texas are blessed with seven children who received the Rite of First Communion on Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2013 with instructions from Pastor Gilbert Franke and Katy Grigar. Front Row-Briana Kent, Drake Grigar and Kayla Romano. Back Row-Luke Thielemann, Meagan Keeton, Cory Barrett and Austin Keeton.

A special thank you to Mary Buechmann for providing the beautiful first communion cake that was enjoyed by everyone for the celebration of these First Communicants.



Trinity Lutheran Church Ladies Aid is having a bake sale Saturday, May 12th beginning at 8:00 am on the corner of Hwy 36 and 4th Street.

We need support from everyone to help bake items for the sale. Won't you join the ladies by baking or supporting this project? If you plan to help, please bring in your baked items by 8:00 am on Saturday, May 12th which is the day of the sale or bring to the office during office hours on Friday, May 11th.

Thank you for your support in advance! Please sign up in the Narthex if you are helping bake something for the bake sale. Your participation of baking is greatly appreciated!! Contact Ruth Paben for more information.



Trinity Lutheran Church Choir

Trinity Lutheran Church Choir welcomes everyone! If you are interested in joining please contact Betty Remmert at 885-3886 or 877-1397 or Geraldine Barrett at 885-3450. Choir sings every second and fourth Sunday. We would love to have you come and join TLC Choir. Practice is Thursday at 6:30 pm before the second and fourth Sunday.





Seniors' Day



Luncheon Held May 1st

The next Senior Day Luncheon will be May 1st at 12:15 p.m.!

The sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex. If you would like to bring a dessert, you may advise the hostesses by placing your name on the "Dessert Registration" also located in the Narthex. Looking forward to seeing you on May 1st! If you have any questions, please contact: Mary Buechmann (885.2730), Antoinette Romano (885.7932), or Geraldine Barrett (885.3450). Come and enjoy the fellowship!

Ribbon Limbo
Sand Free Sand Box
Up Up and Away Volleyball
Practical Life Skills

The congregation may help by purchasing the chicken nuggets, mini corn dogs and drinks by signing up in the narthex. The children can come and have fun and won't cost them anything.

Parents it has been awhile since the kids at TLC have had fun. Please come help and participate. Please contact Maggie Kent 885-2211 or Denise Kopecky 281-704-6275 or Rhonda Pavelka 877-5751.



GAMES MOVIE NIGHT



Save the date for Friday, May 10th 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM for Chicken Nugget! Mini Corn Dogs! Variety of Snack and Drinks! Games! And Movie Night with all the Sunday School children.

We need parents' participation to help with the games. Some of the games will include:

Intermediate Jr. High and High School

- Panty Hose Polo
- Back to Back Balloon Pop
- Ping-Pong Basketball
- Ping Pong Puff
- Tabletop Football
- Flashlight Limbo
- Balloon Tennis
- Apple Bobbing

Some Games for Younger Children Include:

- Buttons in a Bank



Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid Society meeting was held Thursday, April 4 and the First Texas Home and Health group of Sealy were welcomed by president, Ruth Paben.

Members of the First Texas Home Health gave information on home care, fall prevention, bedroom, living room and stairs. This was educational and enjoyed by all.

Ursula Kutra and Ruth Paben were hostesses.

Vivian Kveton and Betty Herridge are hostesses on May 2nd.

Twenty-six quilts were made and sent.

Several greeting cards were sent by Betty Herridge.

The Ladies Aid gave a monetary gift towards the roofing that was done recently.

A bake sale will be held May 11th at the corner of 4th Street and Hwy 36.

Betty Remmert received the Easter lily.

Delicious refreshments brought by members were enjoyed and served by the hostesses.

Next meeting is May 2nd. Visitors are welcomed.

Nettie Swearingen



Everyone is invited to the four year old class graduation that will take place on Sunday, May 19, 2013 during the 10:15 am worship service. The children will wear the preschool's cap and gown that must be returned. The children will be able to keep their tassels as a gift. A gift bag with keepsakes will also be given to each pre-kindergarten child to take home.

We would like the parents of the children to be prompt bringing their child/children to their classrooms at 9:45 am. This will give us ample time to put the caps and gowns on the children and for the parents to take pictures.

Most important, we would like all the parents out of the classrooms by 10:00 am so we can calm the excited children and be ready for the ceremony.

After the worship service the parents and congregation are invited to have cake and punch in the gym. This is also a good time for the parents to take pictures of the graduating children with friends, families and teachers for keepsakes.

I would like to say a Big Thank You to the preschool parents, congregation, preschool board members and the teachers for their support and dedication throughout the year. And a special thank you to Mary Buechmann for supplying the graduation cake for all of us to enjoy.

Please come and take part in these children's lives and watch them graduate and move forward as they continue to learn and know that Jesus loves them. Remember to be here by 9:45 am on Sunday, May 19th for GRADUATION!

I pray for each child whether going to kindergarten or just going into the next class. I pray that we have given each child the right teaching tools to look to God in their times of need. I pray as you grow throughout the years not to let things get in the way of learning, praying and most of all loving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I ask this in your precious name. Amen.

 **Sunglasses Day!** On Friday, May 17th, the children may come to preschool wearing sunglasses! Please label your child's sunglasses with their names. Hopefully we will have a beautiful sunny day to enjoy God's world through our sunglasses.



Water Safety with Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt! When the weather turns warm, everyone wants to be in or around the water. Hanging out at the pool or the beach on a hot day is a great way to beat the heat.

Between having fun and checking out the lifeguards, most people don't think much about water safety — but they should. For people between the ages of 5 and 24, drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death.

Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will be at the preschool on Wednesday, May 15th at 10:00 am. Mr. Gary will talk to the children about water safety tips.

Splashing, wading, and paddling — it must mean a great day in the water. Playing at the beach, at a water park, by a lake, or in a pool can be a real treat on a hot day. Swimming is a lot of fun, but Mr. Gary will tell us how to stay safe in the water.

 **Wear Purple Day!** On Friday May 10th, the children may wear the color PURPLE to reinforce the color of the month.



Family of the Week! Family of the week is a program we have that aids children in being able to share their family with everyone at preschool and church. Each week a family will be chosen to be Family of the Week.

The month of May the staff will have their families displayed.

May 6th– May 10th

Ms. Kristi and Ms. Christie

May 13th – May 17th

Ms. Jessica and Ms. Beatrice

May 20th – May 24th

Ms. Robin & Ms. Maggie & Ms. Allison

Ice Cream Wednesdays! July is National Ice Cream Month in the USA and the 3rd Sunday in July is National Ice Cream Day.

Preschool will celebrate ice cream day each Wednesday for the month of May since we are not in school in the month of July. It is hard to imagine greater fun than enjoying the taste of ice cream.

In the USA more ice cream is consumed per head than any other country in the world – such is the love of ice cream among Americans. This is reflected in other ways too, not least by the fact that the USA has its own 'National Ice Cream Month'. Since 1984, when President Reagan proclaimed that National Ice Cream Month be celebrated annually,

every July has been a focus for greater attention to ice cream in the United States with the 3rd Sunday of that month each year being National Ice Cream Day.

Wednesday, May 1st

Popsicles!

Wednesday, May 8th

Ice Cream Cones

Wednesday, May 15th

Push Ups

Wednesday, May 22nd

Sherbert

Wednesday, May 29th

Ice Cream Sandwiches

With ice cream loved by so many people around the world, the preschoolers will enjoy ice cream every Wednesday this month and hopefully in July, the real month to celebrate ICE CREAM DAY!

 **Back Yard Picnic!** We will have a blast outside by having a Back Yard Picnic. We know how much the children enjoy playing outside and bringing their lunch.

All the children need to bring a sack lunch along with a drink on Friday, May 24th to enjoy the day outside with our Back Yard Picnic! Whether we have rain or not we will enjoy the day!

 **Rainbow Day!** The preschool will have a Rainbow Day on Friday, May 31st which is the last day of preschool. We would like all the children to wear as many colors as they can to reinforce the colors learned throughout the year!

 **Important Information!** *All tuition and late fees are due by May 5th so we are able to close out the year!*

 **Potty Training!** I want to remind the two year old parents that all who are going into the three year old class this fall must be potty trained. Please remember that if your child is not potty trained they may not be in the three year old class. That means no pull ups! Each child must be in underwear or panties!

Potty training is possible if the teacher and parents work together. I appreciate all the parents supporting the teacher for potty training the children.

If your child has been sent home with a change of clothes from Trinity, please return it by the end of this school year.



A Special Thank You! To all the parents and congregational members I want to say thank you for supporting the preschool this year.

Parents, I appreciate all the donations of juice, snacks, volunteering and prayers given to the preschool. Thank you for sending your child to learn about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and most of all the appreciation of loving the preschool. Your heart shows the love by your participation! From the bottom of my heart and the teachers, THANK YOU!

I would like to say thank you to my Preschool Board Members for all the support for the preschool, taking time out for monthly meetings, all the prayers, and most of all giving your heart in the support of the preschool and the teachers.

The teachers and office staff Robin have done an excellent job this year in loving all the children and teaching them about Jesus. God has placed this special staff of Trinity who give their all in everything they do here at preschool. I appreciate each and every one for all the hard work this year.

Each year it is hard to say good-bye to the children and their families. We will miss the children who are leaving to enter kindergarten or moving away or for the families that have had more than one or two children in the program and now their last child, their baby, are graduating preschool.

You are always welcome to come by and visit the preschool, visit church if you are looking for a church home or join us for VBS during the summers. You are always welcomed!



Teacher Appreciation! Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6th – May 10th. Preschool teachers have a special gift and talent in teaching and loving our children.

Let's show our teachers how special they are by the Teacher Appreciation Day Ideas given to you earlier for this special week. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Robin or me. Let's make this a special surprise week for the teachers.

Thanks to all who make these teachers feel important, blessed and loved. Thank you for making this a great week for these special teachers who touch the heart of all of us. Thanks for being there for all of us all year long. All of you are special parents with a caring heart. You are greatly appreciated!



End of School Party! Preschool will

have their end of school hot dog party on Wednesday, May 29th, 9:30 am-10:30 am. Please look for the sign up list to help with games and refreshments!

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the table of your heart.” (Proverbs 3:3)

Have a Great Summer From All of Us At
Trinity Lutheran Preschool

In Christ,
Ms. Maggie



**MINUTES OF TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2013**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President George Wied. Lee Hobratschk opened with prayer and presented a devotion from John Chapter 13.

Council Members Present: Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor, George Wied - President, Dale Toellner - Vice President, Linda Blume - Treasurer, Jerry Leiber - Stewardship Chair, Fred Paben - Trustee Chair, Lee Hobratschk - Head Elder, Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair, Audra Luttrall - Education Member, Rhonda Pavelka - Youth Chair, Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair, Johanna Buechmann - Secretary

Council Members Absent: Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair, Rachel Wolf - Education Chair

Minutes from the March 11, 2013 meeting were presented for review and approval. Linda Blume made motion to accept minutes. Rhonda Pavelka seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Unfinished/Old Business:

*Fred Paben and Janice Wied looking over pictorial directory proof and will send off in April.

Chair Reports:

Linda Blume - Treasurer

*The March 31, 2013 Treasurer’s Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is (\$3,643.12), Building Fund is \$87,745.34, Designated Funds is \$45,063.78 and Total - All Funds is \$129,166.00. The General Fund Contributions is \$17,743.01. Total management and general expenses is \$15,691.71. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$2,051.30.

*Lutheran Witness subscription bill was cancelled.

Jerry Leiber - Stewardship Chair

*No report presented.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*No report presented.

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*Extreme Roofing submitted bill to insurance company.

*Pastor Franke’s ear mic was fixed.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

*Pastor Franke’s contract was finalized and signed.

*Jimmie Meyer reset bell schedule.

*Non members using facilities for weddings will be on a case by case basis.

*Offerings from Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday services and Easter Breakfast will go into General Fund.

*Hymns for church service should be more familiar to everyone.

Audra Luttrall - Education Member

*Palm Sunday celebration during Sunday School had a good response.

*Vacation Bible School is being worked on.

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair (not present)

*No report presented.

Rhonda Pavelka - Youth Chair

*Main Event activity for Jr. High and Intermediate youth Sunday, April 14th.

Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair

*No report presented.

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor

*Pastor had 2 hospital visits and will not be here Sunday April 14th.

*Pastor thanked everyone for the extra pay for Lenten and Easter services.

Dale Toellner - Vice President

*Discussion on Confirmation with Pastor Franke and Lee Hobratschk to start planning.

*Discussion with George Wied to get call committee together to start finding a pastor.

President Wied called for a motion to approve the Chair Reports. Motion was made by Dale Toellner to accept the Chair Reports as presented. Lee Hobratschk seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

New Business:

*Correspondence from Synod to contribute to District in which church already does per the budget.

*Request to use the Fellowship Center from Girl Scout Troop 261 for a Father/Daughter dance on April 20th or May 4th from 6 pm to 8 pm with 2 to 3 hours before for setup. Dale Toellner made motion to let Girl Scouts use facilities and make sure to keep facilities clean like it was before. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion Carried.

*Request to use the Fellowship Center from Sealy High School Choir Boosters for awards banquet on May 16th at 6 pm with set up at 4:30 pm. Request denied due to another event already planned for that date and time.

*Letter from Maggie Kent with Trinity Lutheran Pre-School advising that Bethany Roberts and Antoinette Romano will be rolling off Pre-School Board and Jessica Pacher resigned from board. Monika Foltz, Jennifer Smith and one more person will be on the ballot for Pre-School Board on April 28th at Congregational Meeting.

*Janice Wied asked to use old tables for garage sale in parking lot for Relay for Life team fundraiser.

*No new business.

There being no further business, President Wied called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Fred Paben to adjourn meeting. Dale Toellner seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Ruth Szymanski will do devotion for next meeting on Monday, May 13th. Pastor Franke closed in prayer.

George Wied – President

Johanna Buechmann – Secretary



Trinity Lutheran Church Ladies Sewing Organization sent off Quilts, Dress Kits, School Kits and Health Kits to:

Lutheran World Relief

Quilts:

How Many Quilts - 26

Total Boxes of Quilts - 4

Weight of Quilts – 72 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb

Kits:

How Many Dress Kits – 10

How Many Boxes of Dress Kits – 1

How Many School Kits – 24

How Many Boxes of School Kits – 3

How Many Health Kits – 25

How Many Boxes of Health Kits – 2

Total Boxes of Kits – 5

Weight for Kits – 105 $\frac{3}{4}$ 1lb

Total Boxes of Quilts and Kits 10

Deliver Quilts and Kits to:

Epiphany Lutheran Church

8101 Senate

Houston, TX 77040-1277

May God continue to Bless the Ladies who give precious time to make the world a better place for others.



Church members, please sign the attendance sheet with each family member names including children each Sunday you are in church so the office may keep an accurate attendance.

Introduce yourself to visitors in your pew and encourage them to sign the attendance sheet and make them feel welcome!