



Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

December 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 Hobratschk,
832-419-2998
Bobby Barrett, 885-3450
Tracy Schiller, 865-2748
Joel Grigar, 885-1415

TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Echoes from Eternity

*For to which of the angels did God ever say,
"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"?
Or again,
"I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me
a son"?
And again, when he brings the firstborn into the
world, he says,
"Let all God's angels worship him."
Hebrews 1:5-6*

(ESV)

Before God said a single word to start
the pendulum of days and make time run,
He spoke a gentle word within His heart:
"Today I have begotten You, my Son!"
His words came bouncing off a cosmic cloud,
and, ringing clearly down from age to age,
were sung by angels to a frightened crowd
of shepherds, players on a midnight stage:
"Today the Savior has been born for you!"
Now when your heart is filled with doubt and fear
God's ancient word is just as fresh and new.
So listen very carefully and hear
The echoes from eternity declare:
"Today you have become my child and heir!"

© Gilbert A. Franke, December 2004

We will no longer use the attendance pads beginning in January. Please fill out the blue cards for attendance. Please make sure to have your child/children listed so they may be counted in attendance.

Elders

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Birthdays for the Month!

12/01 Charles Ekarius	12/12 Geraldine Abel	12/22 Monica Kent
12/02 Adolph Leschper	12/14 Ruth Szymanski	12/24 Charles F. Bolten
12/04 Klarissa Smith	12/15 Monika Foltz	Bill Blume
12/09 Bobby Barrett	12/15 Cy Vojtek	12/26 Carol Barrett
12/09 BELLA GRIFFIN	12/16 Linda Blume	12/27 AUSTIN KEETON
12/09 Brooke Munoz	12/16 BRITTANY LUTTRALL	12/28 Kylie Wolf
12/10 Robert Julian	12/16 Debora Waldrop	12/29 CLAYTON FRITSCH
12/11 Travis Pavelka	12/17 Laura Kutra	12/30 Hilda Allison
	12/17 George Wied	12/31 BREANNE BURTTSCHELL
	12/20 Doris Holtkamp	12/31 Barry Wolf

Happy Anniversary

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

12/07/1963 Paul & Loyce Orsak	12/12/2009 Gaylan & Deborah Christiansen
12/07/1958 Gene and Betty Remmert	12/19/1998 Jason & Kelley Kruzel
12/08/1973 Johnny & Susie Busse	12/22/1973 David & Patsy Novosad
12/10/1988 Doug & Rhonda Browne	12/31/1944 Eddie & Shirley Svinky ♥
12/11/1987 Lowell & Dorothy Coody	

Prayers for Nursing Home Residents

***Ellie Michaels**
 Tuscan Community Assistant Living
 28019 Norfolk Trail Ct.
 Katy, TX 77494
 House phone – 281-574-9724
 Manager of Tuscan Community Living is – 832-361-4064

***Eddie Svinky - Colonial Belle – Sealy**

***Louise Kinsey - Colonial Belle – Sealy**
 Nettie Swearingen – Colonial Belle-Sealy

Shut Ins

***Edd and Clara Gerstenberger**
 Kruse Village Long Term Care
 1700 East Stone Room 213
 Strawberry Lane
 Brenham, TX 77833

***Bernice Hintz**
 P. O. Box 1651
 Brenham, TX 77833
 979-289-2568

***Lavonn Schier**
 Caretakers: John and Shirley Schier
 4726 Oxbow Circle East
 Fulshear, TX 77441-4448
 281-346-0452

***Joyce Meyer**
 10563 Kulow Rd.
 Sealy, TX 77474
 979-865-8295

***Jo-Anne Gilliam**
 2545 Hwy 159 E.
 Fayetteville, TX 78940
 979-966-8587



Ladies Aid

News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid met on November 7th with eight members and two guests present.

Ruth Paben, President, called the meeting to order and the meeting was opened with a prayer.

Betty Herridge introduced two spoke-persons from First Texas Home Health who gave us some important information on the new insurance changes for 2014. Betty also read a poem, "Salute to the Veterans."

Our December meeting will be our Christmas party with hostesses being Betty Herridge and Ursula Kutra. Members are asked to bring a gift price range from \$5.00 to \$10.00 plus a canned good for the Sealy, Christian Food Pantry. Antoinette Romano will help Ruby Emshoff tag the gifts. Robert Richter will help us with Christmas music.

Monetary gifts from The Ladies Aid will be given to The Ronald McDonald House and The Krause Center in Katy.

Betty Richter and Nettie Swearingen observed their birthdays in November.

Robert and Betty Richter observed their "50th" wedding anniversary on November 23rd.

After the closing and table prayers, refreshments brought by members were served by hostesses, Ruby Emshoff and Antoinette Romano.

The next meeting will be on December 5th at 2:30 PM.

Visitors are always welcome.

Loretta Dziadek



CANTATA!

The Trinity Lutheran Choir, along with the Bells, and the youth will present "Bethlehem's Child", a Christmas musical. Please plan on attending this year's cantata on December 22nd at 7:00PM. Refreshments will be provided after the program.

Cantata practices - Sunday, December 1st at 6:30PM,
 Thursdays - December 12 and 19 at 6:30PM
 Worship service practice - Thursday, December 5th at 6:30PM

The choir will sing during the worship service on December 8th and December 22nd.



Thanks!

I would like to say a Big Huge Thank You to everyone who participated in the Fifteenth Annual Preschool – Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner. You made this a success whether you donated cans of vegetables, breads, desserts, helped in the kitchen, de-boned turkeys and most of all the donation of turkeys and silent auction items.

Thank you to all who donated their electric roasters to use for the vegetables. We would like to say a big thank you to HEB in Columbus for ordering the turkeys and Mikeska’s in Columbus for smoking the turkeys for the dinner.

I was so very thankful for all the parents and church members involved in the preparation of the dinner. Each day there was a job that needed to be fulfilled. Everyone found their spot and began working. Most of all we enjoyed great fellowship.

Thanks to all who helped support the preschool! Without our congregational members and preschool parent support towards our Preschool Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner this would not have been a success. Special thank you to (eleven years) Mary and Pat Buechmann for all the help from beginning to end and Geraldine Barrett for helping in the church office all week, Mark Meloneck for the use of his pit. Big thanks to Dean Jacobson for spending his entire day working with the turkeys. A big thank you to our preschool parents and church members who helped de-bone turkeys: Dean Jacobson, Brad Kent, Jerry Grunke, Faye Hintz, Johnny Busse, Bob and Terri Julian, David Hauschild, Karen Schaare, Loyce Orsak, Belinda Edge, Robin Jacobson, Becky Moreno, Joyce Amthor and Eric Gum. Thank you to the preschool staff, preschool board members, preschool parents and church member for all their help where help was needed! From the bottom of my heart and for the love of the Lord, thank you.

Thanks to everyone who helped by serving the food and clean up after the event. I am very proud of my teachers, board members, parents and congregational members for all they did to make this a success!

Thanks to Room Mothers: Lauren Bird, Lisa Velazquez, Codi Harkness, Lysie Necker, Stacy Hendry, Hannah Gilmore Jessica Knesek and Manda Quinton for putting together the wonderful class project gift baskets with items donated by the children’s parents for the Silent Auction. You are greatly appreciated for all you do.

Thanks to Robin Jacobson for coordinating the Silent Auction. A lot of time and work goes into the preparation of the auction. We are blessed to have Rhonda Pavelka and Jodine Meyer help with the Silent Auction and collect the money.

God has blessed this preschool in so many ways with teachers, parents, congregational members and the love of these precious children. This gives us the joy to do what we do for the Lord. I am so proud to be part of the family of God here at Trinity. Again Thank You For All Your Love and Support!



Themes! The themes for the month of December are: The Birth of Christ and Giving to Others. The children will learn the story of Joseph, Mary and how Jesus came to be in our lives. Children will also learn how great it feels to give to others who are less fortunate.

The children, parents, and congregational members can help in giving to the Christian Food Pantry. If we have each child bring a non-perishable item to donate, there would be many happy families with a Christmas meal. All the food will be delivered to the Sealy Christian Food Pantry by the children.

Children will also continue to learn the letters T, C, O, R, and N along with the shape STAR and color WHITE. The Bible Verse for the month is “A Savior is born, He is Christ the Lord.” The Bible stories for the month are:

Dec. 2nd – Dec. 6th

Jonah and the Big Fish

“True Messages” from Preschool Devotional Book

Daniel and the Lion

Dec. 9th – Dec. 13th

Esther the Beautiful

Queen Esther Saves the People

“How Much Longer” Preschool Devotional Book

Mary and Joseph

Dec. 16th-Dec 20th

Preschool Devotional Book

“The First Christmas”

“Working for Fun”

“The Miracles of Jesus”



Food Pantry! Each year Trinity Lutheran Preschool takes up a collection of canned food items for the Christian Food Pantry. The collection will begin the first day of December.

Located by the sign-in-sign-out book is a box labeled Christian Food Pantry and we would like each child to bring items to be placed in the box for families that would not be able to have a Christmas Dinner.

Items that can be brought are:

Canned sweet potatoes, green beans, corn, stuffing mix, cornbread mix, canned fruit or you can buy or clean out your pantry for items that you do not want or use and are not outdated. This is a great way to do God's work by helping the less fortunate so they could have a blessed Christmas with their family.

The four year old class will take a walking field trip to the Christian Food Pantry to deliver the items of food. We also need a few parents to help walk with the children. If anyone would like to bring a little wagon the day of the field trip, this would be greatly appreciated!

The field trip will take place on Friday December 13th at 10:30 am, leaving here at 10:15 am. We also need the parents to fill out a permission form. Please let your child's teacher know if you are able to help by donating a wagon and or walk the children to the pantry.

The workers at the pantry will explain to the children the importance of helping one another in times of need. We may be blessed today but no one knows about tomorrow. Parents and congregational members are encouraged to bring non-perishable foods to help with the Christian Food Pantry.

 **Let's Be Safe!** Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will be at the preschool on Wednesday December 11th at 10:00 am. Mr. Gary will discuss with the children what being safe means. It means holding your parents' hands when crossing a street or careful not to touch the stove in case it is hot. Always ask your parents or baby sitter before you go outside to play. Or what about getting into a car, even if you know the person, unless your mother or father says it is okay. And why do we have to sit in a car seat?

Mr. Gary knows that safety of children is of the utmost concern. He will teach children in a positive way to be safe without becoming fearful.

 **Flashlight Day!** On Friday December 20th the children may bring a flashlight to preschool labeled with their name. This is to recognize that December 24th is the longest night of the year. The children will also read the story of the Lost Sheep. They can pretend to look for their lost sheep with their flashlights.

 **Pajama Day!!** All children! Wear your pajamas to preschool and enjoy the morning with the movie Polar Express on Friday, December 20th! We will have a special snack while watching the movie.

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.

Your child is asked to bring about five to ten pictures of their family to be placed on the preschool bulletin board in the gym. Always check your calendar of events to see if it is your turn to be family of the week. Families of the Week for the month of December are:

Dec. 2nd – Dec. 6th

Kinsley Koy & Kinley Langley

Dec. 9th – Dec. 13th

Tre' Martinez

Dec 16th – Dec. 20th

Abigail Mlcak & Betty Rose Moreno

Jan. 7th – Jan 10th

Ellington Mulvany & Christian Murillo

Please bring your pictures Friday before your child is Family of the Week!

 **Wear White Day!** Since we are learning the color WHITE for the month, we would like the children to wear something WHITE to preschool on Friday December 6th. Children can wear white clothes, socks, shoes, hair bows, neckties or whatever you can think of to reinforce the color WHITE!

 **Books are Fun!** Books are Fun is displaying their books on Tuesday December 10th for you to browse and order. These will be nice Christmas gifts for a special someone. The book display will stay for a week giving you enough time to browse and place your order. Your books will arrive on Tuesday December 17th.

All orders along with the money must be turned in by Monday December 16th so your order will be placed.

To place your order, please write the title or item on the envelope. Place your money in the envelope, seal and place in the Books are Fun Box.

Christmas Party! Each child in the classroom will draw names so we can have an ornament gift exchange among the children. The ornaments can be from .99 cents to \$3.00. This way the children can have fun exchanging their gifts but the gift will go straight into their bags so they can open the gift at home

All ornaments need to be wrapped from whom and to whom and brought to the preschool by Friday December 13th. Please do not forget to bring your ornament gift, as we do not want a sad child without a gift.

The preschool Christmas party will take place on Wednesday, December 18th, 9:30 am – 10:30 am. The preschool party will be a mini corn dog party. Please check the party sign up list to see how you can help by purchasing food items needed for the party.

Please sign up ahead of time to help with the games at the party. It is hard to know which parents are attending without signing up to help supervise a game.



**Merry Christmas
And
Happy New Year
Ms. Maggie & Preschool Staff**



**MINUTES OF TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
NOVEMBER 11, 2013**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President George Wied and opened with prayer. Dale Toellner presented a devotion titled *Atheist 'megachurches' take root across US, world.*

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, Bobby Barrett- Elder, Rachel Wolf- Education Chair, Ruth Szymanski- Evangelism Chair, Norma Pavelka- Fellowship Chair, Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair, Johanna Buechmann – Secretary
Council Members Absent: Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair, Rhonda Pavelka - Youth Chair
Minutes from the October 14, 2013 meeting were presented for review and approval. Rachael Wolf made a motion to accept minutes. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion, all approved, motion carried.

Unfinished/Old Business:

*Payment to Pastor Jon for mileage and sermon - Motion made by Linda Blume to pay Pastor Jon for mileage and sermon. Dale Toellner seconded the motion, all approved, motion carried.

*No further unfinished business.

Chair Reports:
Linda Blume- Treasurer

*The October 31, 2013 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the

General Fund is \$9,641.58, Building Fund is \$51,751.03, Designated Funds is \$46,008.49 and Total- All Funds is \$107,401.10. The General Fund Contributions is \$13,095.00.

Total management and general expenses is \$12,848.46. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$246.54.
Jerry Leiber- Stewardship Chair

*Invoice for contribution envelopes for \$416.81 given to Linda Blume for payment.
Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*No report presented.
Fred Paben- Trustee Chair

*No report presented.
Bobby Barrett – Elder

*Letters sent to delinquent members.
*Brittany Foerster received \$300 for doing mission work at school plus a free will offering taken in the future.

Rachel Wolf- Education Chair
*Sunday School! 1st- 5th grade class is needing teachers.

*Children are singing in Cantata on December 22nd.

* Audra Luttrall, Kimberly Kornegay and Rachel Wolf will be doing something with youth group.

Norma Pavelka- Fellowship Chair
*October 27th potluck lunch was a success.

*Discussion about reception after Cantata. Altar Guild will host reception with congregation asked to donate cookies.
Rhonda Pavelka - Youth Chair (not present)

*Ruth Szymanski will look through bank statements in youth folder.
Pat Buechmann- Usher Chair

*No report presented.

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor
*Adult Instruction course with three students almost completed.

*There will be a link on the church web site to connect with Synod web site.

*Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas services will be added to web site.

*Pastor needs to put article in newsletter about importance of children attending Sunday School.
Dale Toellner- Vice President

*Pastoral Call Committee Meeting update. Lunch with Pastor Jon Baunersreuther was positive. Congregation should submit names to call committee of pastors they know. President Wied called for a motion to approve the Chair Reports. Motion was made by Dale Toellner to accept the Chair Reports as presented. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion, all approved, motion carried.

New Business:

*Various correspondence to the church – none

*Sealy Christian Food Pantry requested to use the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 for Pancake Supper. Motion made by Fred Paben to allow the Sealy Christian Food Pantry to use the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, March 4, 2014. Pastor Franke seconded the motion, all approved, and the motion carried.

*Installation of Officers will be January 5, 2014.

*No further new business. There being no further business, President Wied called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Dale Toellner to adjourn meeting. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion, all approved, and the motion carried. George Wied will do devotion for next meeting. Next meeting will be on Monday, December 9, 2013. Pastor Franke closed with prayer and led all in the Lord's Prayer.

George Wied - President

President George Wied called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. Minutes from Congregational Meeting on April 28, 2013 were read for approval. A motion made by Carol Jean Hauschild to accept minutes as read. Bill Blume seconded the motion, all approved, motion carried. The Ballot was presented to the congregation. The Chairman of the Youth Board is vacant and needs candidate's name. The floor was open to nominations with none announced for Youth Board Chairman. Georgia Wied made motion to accept nominations as presented by acclamation. Geraldine Stuessel seconded the motion, all approved, motion carried.

The 2014 Proposed Budget for Trinity Lutheran Church was presented with discussion. Brad Kent made motion to accept budget as presented. Lowell Coody seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Dale Toellner presented Call Committee update concerning Pastor Jon's presentation on questionnaire. Congregational members were asked if their needs were being met with the questionnaire. If not, members need to send concerns and thoughts to call committee. Pastor Franke expressed concern on the type of service the congregation wants. There being no further business, President Wied called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Dale Toellner, seconded by Doyle Kornegay to adjourn. All approved. Motion carried.

George Wied, President



**MINUTES OF THE
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ON
NOVEMBER 10,2013**

