



Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

April 2014

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



SONGS OF JOY!

**“The Lord is my strength and my song;
He has become my salvation!”**

This is the Song of Miriam, Moses’ sister, as she celebrated God’s victory over the Egyptians at the Red Sea (*Exodus 15*). It was sung again by Isaiah as he promised deliverance for God’s people from Assyrian exile (*Isaiah 12*). The people of Israel recalled this song as they sang thanksgiving for God’s triumph over their enemies in battle (*Psalms 118*). Each victory was seen as confirmation of their exodus from Egyptian slavery and their election as God’s people.

Psalms 118 has become the victory song of God’s people on Easter as well. These verses are used as the Entrance Psalm on the Queen of the Church Festivals. Listen for them in our worship service on Easter! They mark deliverance for God’s people from the slavery of sin and return from exile in the captivity of this world. They proclaim Jesus’ crucifixion as the new Exodus. They recognize his resurrection as the guarantee of God’s redeeming work in the world today and the seal of his promised inheritance in heaven.

This isn’t the only kind of song the Israelites knew. Back in the desert at the foot of Sinai, they sang a different tune. Moses observed to Aaron as they came down the mountain with the Tablets of the Law: "It is not the sound of victory, it is not the sound of defeat; it is the sound of singing that I hear." (*Exodus 32:18 NIV*) When they reached the camp they found the people worshipping a golden calf!

On the banks of the Euphrates in Babylon, their captors asked them for songs; they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" But the psalmist asks, "How can we sing the songs of the LORD while in a foreign land?" (*Psalms 137:3-4*) In exile their hearts were filled with songs of defeat.

It was only after the waters closed on the Red Sea and when the way back to Zion was opened, that they could sing songs of joy in a new land! Now that darkness has swallowed up the Light of the World on the cross and His grave has been opened where it was closed with a stone, we cannot help but sing the song of triumph!

***“The Lord is my strength and my song;
He has become my salvation!”***

Gil Franke

 **HAPPY BIRTHDAY Birthdays for the Month!** 

4/02 Tracy Schiller	4/18 Marlene Leiber	4/25 KAYLA ROMANO
4/02 Rachel Wolf	4/19 Donald Munoz	4/26 Carol Jean Hauschild
4/02 John Fullen	4/19 Eric Gum	4/26 Jerry Leiber
4/03 Audra Luttrall	4/20 Denise Kopecky	4/26 Geraldine Barrett
4/03 Jennifer Smith	4/21 Glenwood Kveton	4/29 NICOLE FASHNER
4/13 CAYDEN KOPECKY	4/22 Brent Novosad	4/30 Kimberly Hobratschk
4/14 Craig Fasher	4/22 Antoinette Romano	Edwin Remmert
4/15 Brent Foltz	4/23 AVERY GRIGAR	
4/17 Sarah Emshoff	4/23 Eddie Svinky	

 **Happy Anniversary**       

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

04/02/1967 Larry & Barbara Koy	04/19/1988 Donald and Felicia Munoz
04/02/1983 Jerry & Linda Schroeder	04/25/1998 Joe and Jennifer Smith

† 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
Edna Finke
 832-419-4658
 1217 Turnbury Oak St.
 Houston, TX 77055

† Shut Ins

***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

Annie Ashorn
 2370 FM 1094
 Sealy, TX 77474
 979-885-2820



Sympathy For:

 **Sympathy For** the family of Evelyn Michaelis who went to be with her Lord on Tuesday, February 4, 2014. Please keep the family in your prayers.

 **Sympathy For** the family of Edd Gerstenberger who went to be with his Lord on Saturday, February 8, 2014. Please keep the family in your prayers.

 **Sympathy For** the family of Kirby Heintschel who went to be with his Lord on Thursday, February 20, 2014. Please keep the family in your prayers

 **Sympathy For** the family of Nettie Hein who went to be with her Lord on Thursday, March 6, 2014. Please keep the family in your prayers. She will be greatly missed.

 **Sympathy For** the family of Leroy Ashorn Jr. (son to Annie Ashorn) who went to be with his Lord on Tuesday, March 11, 2014. Please keep the family in your prayers.

 **Sympathy For** the family of Hazel Steglich age of 90 (sister to Nettie Swearingen) who went to be with her Lord on Monday, March 17, 2014. Please keep Nettie and the rest of the family in your prayers.



HOLY COMMUNION 

The Elders have recommended and the Church Council approved moving Communion from our regular third Sunday, May 18, to the fourth Sunday, May 25. This will allow a more guest-friendly service for the families of our Preschool graduates on the 18th, and a sacramental celebration for our Memorial Day weekend observance.



“Sir, We Would like to See Jesus!”

Shortly after Jesus had been welcomed to Jerusalem with joyous shouts of “Hosanna!” some Greeks who had come there for the Passover Feast approached Philip: “Sir, we would like to see Jesus!” (*John 12:21 NIV*) That sounds like a reasonable enough request. What would you do if someone came to you with a statement like that?

“Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.” (*John 12:22 NIV*) That is probably what most of us would do. We’d go to a friend, “There is someone over here who wants to see Jesus.” Then the two of us would go to Jesus: “There are some people here who would like to see you.”

The sad thing is that we never find out whether the visiting Greeks every got their audience with Jesus or not! That is about the way it goes when we take the information to Jesus instead of bringing the person to our Lord. Usually we **talk about** our faith without **sharing** our Savior. Sometimes we are more interested in **the fact** that someone would like to know Jesus than we are concerned about **introducing Jesus** to that person.

Jesus talked about the hour of His glorification and how it would be achieved by His death. Then he added, “When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men to myself.” (*John 12:32 NIV*) It is in Jesus’ death that we really see His glory, because by His crucifixion He paid the debt of our sins and overcame the power of death over us. It is by His death that we come to know Him.

When someone who needs to see Jesus comes to you, point the way to His cross!

Gil Franke

Holy Week -- 7:00 pm

April 17 - Holy Thursday “Jesus: Passover Lamb” (*Holy Communion*)

April 18 - Good Friday
“Jesus: Victim of Sin” (*Tenebrae – Service of Darkness*)

Easter -- 7:00 am April 20 - Sunrise
“Christ: Victor over Death” (*Holy Communion*)
Easter Pancake Breakfast after the Sunrise Service and before the 10:15 am Worship.
Come and Join Us.



Thrivent Financial
for Lutherans™

Thrivent Choice

The Thrivent Choice program of Thrivent Financial is a way for eligible members to recommend where some of the Thrivent’s charitable outreach funds go. Funding for outreach comes from Thrivent’s tax exemption as a not-for-profit fraternal benefit society. This money would otherwise pay certain taxes instead goes to strengthen communities. It’s not just corporate-directed outreach. Members have a voice in where the money goes. In 2013:

\$49 million in Thrivent Choice grant funds went to congregations, Lutheran schools, social ministries and other nonprofits.

16,654 congregations received Thrivent Choice grant funds.

3,219 Lutheran schools (preschools to colleges) received Thrivent Choice grant funds.

270,617 members directed Choice Dollars.

Trinity Lutheran Church received \$7,315 Choice Dollars in 2013. So far 2014 \$1,411 have been received by Trinity. As a member of Thrivent Financial you receive a publication entitled Thrivent Magazine. Please read the articles in this magazine for up-dates. For more information contact Grace Holtkamp.

Grace Holtkamp



Trinity Lutheran Church



Fish Fry Drive Thru

Proceeds go towards General Fund

Tickets are sold before and after the worship service and in the church office

Fish Fry - Drive Thru

Wednesday, April 16, 2014

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Cost \$9.00

Pick up plates at the back entrance of church. Contact Norma Pavelka for any questions.



Yum Yum!!



Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid Society met on March 6th with ten members present. President Ruth Paben called the meeting to order and the members joined in unison in reciting the opening prayer.

Betty Herridge then gave a topic from "Chicken Soup for the Soul."

Plans were finalized for the Lenten soup and sandwich supper which will be held on March 7th.

A mite box donation was given to The Lutheran Social Services of the South for an Easter matching Gift Challenge.

Some Ladies Aid Members volunteered to check on buying some new tablecloths for our organization.

Hostesses for April will be Ruth Paben and Betty Herridge.

"Happy Birthday" was sung to Vivian Kveton who has a March birthday. Bernice Hintz also observed her birthday in March.

After the meeting adjourned, refreshments brought by members were served by members were served by hostesses, Rose Trenckmann and Betty Remmert.

Loretta Dziadek



Easter Crosses

The Youth will be selling Easter Crosses after church in the narthex for \$10.00 each for the next few Sundays. These signs are a great way to show your neighbors your beliefs in the Lenten and Easter seasons!!!!



Volleyball

Thursday's at 6:30 pm. Contact Richard Engelbrecht @ 281-740-9618 after 6:00 pm for more information!



Senior Day Luncheon!

When: Wednesday, April 2nd!

Time: 12:15 pm

Sign Up To Attend!!

Sign Up To Attend!!  SENIOR DAY! - Mark your Calendar – Our next Senior Day Luncheon at Trinity is Wednesday, April 2nd at 12:15 p.m. Come and enjoy lunch! We will play Bingo and Dominos after the luncheon or just enjoy the food and fellowship! Remember to invite your friends and neighbors. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex if you plan to attend. If you have any questions please contact Mary Buechmann 885-2730, Geraldine Barrett 885-3450 or Antoinette Romano 281-217-7177.



Relay for Life of Austin

County Hope

Will be held Saturday, May 3rd, in Sealy. Remember to honor a loved one by purchasing a luminaria for a minimum donation of \$5.00.

The candles nestled in bags will be lit to give off a warm glow during our ceremony at 9:00 p.m.

You can dedicate this tribute to someone who has passed away from cancer or someone who is currently fighting and surviving cancer.

We encourage you to decorate your own luminaria bag with pictures, stickers, poems, or anything that shows the personality of the person you are honoring.

Please contact Janice Wied for bags and forms. To ensure that the names of the honored individuals are listed on the Wall of Hope, please have your completed forms, bags, and money turned in no later than April 1st.

Janice Wied



UPCOMING FUNDRAISER!!



**TRINITY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL
CHICKEN SPAGHETTI DINNER
FUNDRAISER!**

**Trinity Lutheran Preschool is having a
Chicken Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
Wednesday, May 14, 2014
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
DRIVE THRU ONLY!
\$9.00**

**You can purchase your tickets
in the Church or Preschool Office.**

**Come and enjoy Chicken Spaghetti while supporting
the preschool!**

**A donation list will be posted for parents to help with
some of the ingredients for the dinner! Please look at
the glass window, sign up and bring in your items
ASAP!**



**Thank you in advance!
Ms. Maggie**



Each year the preschool comes together with St. Jude's Research Hospital to teach the children the importance of bike safety while raising money for childhood cancer research. Bike safety week will be Monday, April 21st- Friday, April 25th.

St. Jude's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee is the first institution established for the sole purpose of conducting basic and clinical research into catastrophic childhood diseases, mainly cancer.

St. Jude's Research Hospital sends us a week long program that teaches the children about bike safety with story color sheets, reading book and DVD. The DVD is about Bikewell Bear and lessons about bike safety.

We are asking each child to donate \$1.00 or more that would go towards St. Jude's Research Hospital to help families in need with the cost of treatments for their child who has cancer.

St. Jude's Research Hospital was founded by the late entertainer Danny Thomas. The hospital is an internationally recognized biomedical research hospital dedicated to childhood cancer. Patients' care and research are supported through funds raised by ALSAC, which is American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities.

ALSAC covers all cost not covered by insurance for medical treatment rendered at St.

Jude's Research Hospital. Families without insurance are never asked to pay. With the support of you and others more than 18,750 patients have been successfully treated at St. Jude's Research Hospital.

As a preschool we teach the children about what donations are and how we can help families in need. With each child's donation of \$1.00 or more to St. Jude's Research Hospital for support, we can help millions around the world both through increased safety and cancer research and treatment. Let's try to raise as much money as we can to help these families in need.



Bike Safety with Retired Trooper Gary!

Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will come to the preschool to talk to the children about Bike Safety on Wednesday, April 23rd at 10:00 am.

Mr. Gary will reinforce Bikewell Bears lessons from St. Jude's on bike safety. He will talk to the children about the importance of wearing a helmet, watching out for people, and being aware of parked cars and knowing driveways can be dangerous while riding a bike. Teaching safety is important here at Trinity.



Easter Party! The preschool Easter party will be Wednesday, April 16th beginning at 9:30 am until 10:30 am.

The children will have a Chicken Nugget Party. We will have a sign up list for parents to bring items needed for the party and help with games.

Each child will be given six plastic eggs to take home from the preschool to be filled by you. Please fill each egg with individually wrapped candy inside. The children will have a small Easter egg hunt outside with their homemade Easter baskets made by them. We will have the room moms go through the baskets to make sure each child will have the same amount of eggs to go home.

I thank everyone who signs up for the refreshments, but we NEED parents to sign up in advance to help with the games.



Park and Picnic! Springtime is here with great spring weather. With the beautiful sunshine we are looking forward to spending the day at the park. The four year old classes will go to the park on Wednesday April 30th. Both classes will go from 9:30 am until 11:30 am. Classes will need to bring a sack lunch along with a drink. The children will

decorate a special bag for their lunches as a reminder to the parent not to forget.

A permission form must be signed to attend the park and picnic. We also need at least (6) or more parent volunteers to help chaperone, have close eye supervision and help transport the children across the street to the park and back to the preschool.

Without enough parents to help we will have a day outside on the preschool playground and have lunch outside on the picnic tables.

If bad weather occurs we will have the children play games and have their lunch in the gym.

All parents that are helping with the park and picnic please be here by 9:15 a.m. Remember that each child is a precious gift from God and must be supervised. Please do not gather and visit with each other and make sure you are in view of the children at all times.

 **Family of the Week!** Family of the week is a program we have that aids children to share their family with everyone at preschool and church. This month's families are the remaining teachers. Families of the Week for the month of April are:

April 7th – April 11th

Ms. Maggie

April 14th – April 18th

Ms. Robin

April 21st – April 25th

Ms. Tara

April 28th – May 2nd

Ms. Kristi

 **Wear Black Day!** On Thursday, April 17th the children can wear the color BLACK to reinforce the color for the month.

 **Themes!** The themes for the month of April are: Spring Farm and Sea Animals. The color the children will be learning and reinforcing is BLACK, and the shape is DIAMOND and the letters to teach are B, V, E, W, and K for the ones that are ready to move on.

The Bible stories for the month of April are:

April 2nd April 4th

“What’s In Your Heart”

(PS Devotional Book)

Make Your Own Way for the King

April 7th – April 11th

“Washing Feet”

“God Goes With You”

(PS Devotional Book)

“The Last Supper”

April 14th – April 18th

“Sadness”

Resurrection Eggs

April 21st - April 25th

“Surprise”

“God Watches You”

(PS Devotional Book)

“Fish for Breakfast”

April 28th – May 2nd

“Jesus Goes Home”

“Thank You for Friends”

(PS Devotional Book)

“Wind and Fire”

The children continue to learn the Ten Commandments and Lord’s Prayer and know that Jesus loves them.



Cap and Gown Pictures!

Treasured

Portraits will come and take individual and group cap and gown pictures for the four year old classes that are graduating.

This will take place on Friday, May 9th at 8:15 am. Please be sure to fill out your order form and money and return it to the office by Friday, May 2nd. No pictures will be taken without the form and money.



Silly Sock Day!

On Wednesday, April 11th the children will have Silly Sock Day! The children must come to preschool with shoes on and as soon as they are in their classrooms they may take off their shoes and run around in their socks all morning.

If your child comes in with sandals without any socks, please bring a pair of socks for them. No child will be able to run around without socks. Shoes are a must when going outside to play.



Books are Fun!

Angela from Books are Fun will have a display set up for us to browse books. She will come and set up the display on Tuesday April 8th if you would like to order books.

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

If Angela decides to have PAY AND TAKE, remember to peel the price sticker and place on your cash or check and place in the Books are Fun box!

Angela will be back to take down the display and bring you the books that you ordered on Tuesday, April 15th.



Pre-K Graduation!

SAVE THE DATE! The four year old classes will have a cap and gown

ceremony on Sunday, May 18th at the 10:15 a.m. worship service with a reception after the service.



When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

(John 8:12)

In Christ, Ms. Maggie



MINUTES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 10, 2014

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President Dale Toellner and opened with prayer. Valerie Engelbrecht presented a devotion from Psalm 137:3.

Council Members Present: Pastor Franke -
Vacancy Pastor, Dale Toellner - President
George Wied - Vice President
Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer
Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair
Fred Paben - Trustee Chair
Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair
Valerie Engelbrecht - Education/Youth Chair
Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair
Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair
Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair
Johanna Buechmann - Secretary
Council Members Absent: none
Visitor Present: Janice Wied

Minutes from the February 10, 2014 meeting were presented for review and approval. George Wied made motion to accept minutes. Carol Jean Hauschild seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Unfinished/Old Business :

***Marlene Leiber** advised that the 2014 contribution envelopes that were never picked up have been mailed out.

***Ruth Szymanski** advised that Katie Thomas has been contacted to close out youth account at Wells Fargo.

Chair Reports:

Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer

*The February 28, 2014 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$25,068.97, Building Fund is \$52,235.99 Designated Funds is \$47,143.26 and Total - All Funds is \$124,448.22. The General Fund Contributions is \$16,209.90. Total management and general expenses is \$13,085.98. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$3,123.92. General Fund Expenditures is \$13,085.98.

*Discussion on invoices regarding handbells

*Mileage compensation for Pastor from .565 to .56

Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair

*Contribution envelopes for 2015 - Marlene will order 150 boxes now by March 15th to get 3 to 4% discount. There were 124 boxes used in 2014.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

*Pastor Franke has Confirmation scheduled starting March 23rd.

*Communion will be moved to 4th Sunday in May from 3rd Sunday in May due to Preschool Graduation on 3rd Sunday.

*Sunday School class with Brian Owen from St. John's Episcopal Church will happen after Easter so that attendance can be worked on first and our material can be used.

George Wied - Vice President

*Call Committee has finished paper work and sent to synod.

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor

*Calendar on web page for March has been updated.

Valerie Engelbrecht- Education/Youth Chair

*Youth will sell crosses starting Sunday, March 16th for \$10 each. A schedule has been made for youth to sell them. Children will help make announcement in church about selling crosses.

*Valerie will communicate more with all youth parents with postcards, emails, etc. to encourage them to be more involved.

*Youth service will be March 23rd.

*Palm Sunday Celebration during Sunday School on April 13th (Palm Sunday).

*Service Project will be the pews in the sanctuary with the cards etc.

*Youth will host Lenten Soup Supper on Wednesday, April 2, 2014.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*Visitor bags will be given out to Preschool Graduation families as a welcome to Trinity.

*Letters (150) were sent out to visitors that came to hear Preschoolers sing and attend Rodeo Boots and Bling.

Norrna Pavelka - Fellowship Chair

*Lenten Soup Suppers are going well.

*Church Council will host Lenten Soup Supper on Wednesday, March 19th.

*Fellowship will host Lenten Soup Supper on Wednesday, April 9th.

*Easter Breakfast, after Sunrise Service, will be Sunday, April 20th.

*Fish Fry Drive Thru will be Wednesday, April 16th from 5 to 7 pm. Tickets are on sale and event to be advertised.

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*No report presented.

Pat Buechmann, Usher Chair

*No report presented.

*Discussion on teams with less than four people - ask youth to help usher as volunteers to get younger ones involved.

President Toellner called for a motion to approve the Chair Reports. Motion was made by Pastor Franke to accept the Chair Reports as presented. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

New Business:

*Janice Wied requested to use Fellowship Center (gym) for Relay for Life Captain's Meeting on Tuesday, March 18th at 6 pm, if Tony's is not finished remodeling room.

Council okayed to use facility.

*Choir Director stipend - George Wied talked with Sharon Connor about payment for directing choir. Discussion on donating payment back to church in a designated choir fund for Music Ministry or directly to her. George will talk with Sharon again about this.

*Motion made by George Wied to move Narthex Renovation designated fund to General Fund. Fred Paben seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

*No further new business.

There being no further business, President Toellner called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by George Wied to adjourn meeting. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried. Ruth Szymanski will do devotion for next meeting.

Next meeting will be on Monday, April 14, 2014. President Toellner led all in the Lord's Prayer.

Dale Toellner - President
Johanna Buechmann - Secretary



Attendance Cards

We try to keep an accurate record of Attendance, Communion and Offerings, to track the Spiritual well-being of our congregation.

Members and Guests, please print your name and your child or children's names and complete address (both physical and e-mail) on a blue card located in the pew and place it in the offering plate for your record of attendance.

On the back of the card please fill out the communion registration acknowledging that you will be receiving communion.

Keeping accurate church records, including Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings and Funerals goes hand in hand with Attendance and Communion. The Shepherd's Staff is a computer program used by the LCMS for all these records. It generates the year end Annual Parochial Report, required by The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Please make sure you and your family is signed in for attendance and communion.



e You Sunday!