



TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

DECEMBER 2014



Dec. 14th 10:15 am

Christmas Celebration Service

Christmas Eve Service
6:00 pm (Communion)

Christmas Day Service
9:00 am (Communion)

Church Office Hours:
Dec. 24th Close at Noon
Closed Dec. 25th & 26th Thursday
and Friday for Christmas.

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

When the Mercy of Our Lord Appeared

(For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. – Titus 3:3-7 ESV)

When streaming clouds oppress the wintry skies
our thoughts are turned toward sad and lonely things.
Each chilling drop of driven conscience stings
so deeply that it scours our hearts; it cries
out, taunting us with futile hope that dies
before it springs to life. It only brings
the accusations of our sin and sings
a song of woe that daunts and terrifies.

But when the mercy of our Lord appeared
God showed His loving kindness at Christ's birth --
Almighty God in human flesh on earth!
The brilliant sun of righteousness has seared
away the sorrows and the doubts that jeered
our hopes. Christ fills us with a holy worth!
Our new-born hearts sing out in joyous mirth
and souls once filled with fearful thoughts are cheered!

According to His mercy, Christ our Lord
has washed you with His life renewing grace!
God's love poured out on you in rich supply
has made you child and heir of His reward!
In Christ you see the Father's smiling face!
Now let a life of love be your reply!

God grant you peace and joy throughout this year
and keep you in His grace and free from fear!

© Gilbert A. Franke, Dec. 2003
Pastor Franke



GREETINGS TO YOU ON THIS SPECIAL DAY

12/01 Charles Ekarius	12/15 Monika Foltz	12/25 Bill Blume
12/02 Adolph Leschper	12/15 Cy Vojtek	12/26 Carol Barrett
12/04 Klarissa Smith	12/16 Linda Blume	12/26 Clifton Langton
12/09 Bobby Barrett	12/16 Brittany Luttrall	12/27 Austin Keeton
12/09 BELLA GRIFFIN	12/16 Debora Waldrop	12/28 Reed Langton
12/09 Brooke Munoz	12/17 Laura Kutra	12/28 Kylie Wolf
12/10 Robert Julian	12/17 George Wied	12/29 Clayton Fritsch
12/11 Travis Pavelka	12/20 Doris Holtkamp	12/30 Hilda Allison
12/12 Geraldine Abel	12/22 Monica Kent	12/31 Barry Wolf
12/14 Ruth Szymanski	12/24 Charles F. Bolten	



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 And Shut Ins

<p>*Ellie Michaels Tuscan Community Asst. Living 28019 Norfolk Trail Ct. Katy, TX 77494 House phone – 281-574-9724 Manager of Tuscan Community Living is – 832-361-4064</p> <p>*Eddie Svinky - Colonial Belle – Sealy</p> <p>*Louise Kinsey - Colonial Belle – Sealy</p> <p>*Nettie Swearingen Colonial Belle-Sealy</p> <p>*Edna Finke 832-419-4658 Solana at Cinco Ranch 24001 Cinco Village Center Blvd Apt 1148 Katy TX 77494</p>	<p>*Clara Gerstenberger Kruse Village Long Term Care 1700 East Stone Room 213 Strawberry Lane Brenham, TX 77833</p> <p>*Bernice Hintz P. O. Box 1651 Brenham, TX 77833 979-289-2568</p> <p>*Lavonn Schier Caretakers: John and Shirley Schier 4726 Oxbow Circle East Fulshear, TX 77441-4448 281-346-0452 Charles Bolten Colonial Belle - Sealy</p>
---	--



**Rite of Confirmation By Pastor Gilbert Franke
November 23, 2014
Congratulations:**

Elzanor (Ellie) Isabella Anderson
Parents are Robert and Melody Anderson

Kristen Nicole Cash
Parents are David and Brenda Cash

Krystal Lzann Cash
Parents are David and Brenda Cash

Courtney Denise Dziadzki
Parents are Russell and Sheri Dziadzki

Mzagan Ashley Keeton
Parents are Michael and Rachael Villalovoz

Brody Pete Schiller
Parents are Bryant and Melinda Schiller



Dec. 3rd. 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Altar Guild
7:00 pm Worship

Dec. 10th 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Church Council
7:00 pm Worship

Dec. 17th 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Church Choir
7:00 pm Worship



CONGRATULATIONS!!! *There's a new member in the Drury Family! JACOBE QUATRO arrived on November 11th, at 6:59 pm, weighing 9lb-2oz! Proud parents are Farrah and Rich Drury!! Let's keep precious Jacobe and his Mom and Dad in our prayers!*



SEALY CHRISTIAN

FOOD PANTRY is looking for volunteers from Trinity Lutheran Church to help with sacking groceries at the Sealy Christian Food Pantry. If you are interested please contact Patsy Tomasek at 877-0848.



Senior Day Catered Meal!

Must Be Paid In Advance

When: Wednesday, December 3th!

Time: 12:15 pm

SENIOR DAY! - Mark your Calendar – Our next Senior Day Luncheon at Trinity is Wednesday, December 3rd at 12:15 p.m. with a catered meal of chicken fried steak and the trimmings.

The cost of the meal is \$7.00 per person in advance. If you plan to invite a guest or two please pay their cost in advance. The deadline to purchase your meal is Sunday, November 30th. After this date no meals will be ordered. Please give your money to Mary Buechmann or Antoinette Romano. If you would like to bring a dessert please sign up in the narthex.

Please stay for Christmas songs, games and fellowship! If you have any questions please contact Mary Buechmann 885-2730, or Antoinette Romano 281-217-7177.



Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid Society met on November 6th with eight members present.

President, Ruth Paben, called the meeting to order and it was opened with a prayer. Then the topic “Lila Gilbert” was given by Betty Herridge.

The December 4th meeting will be our Christmas party. Members are asked to bring a gift in the amount of \$5.00 to \$10.00 plus a non-perishable food item for the Sealy Christian Food Pantry.

The quarterly mite box offering will be given to the Preschool for their annual turkey dinner fundraiser.

The hostesses for December are Rose Trenckmann and Loretta Dziadek.

Members observing November birthdays are Nettie Swearingen, November 23rd and Betty Richter, November 27th. Betty and Robert Richter observed their anniversary on November 23rd.

After the table and closing prayers were given, refreshments were served by hostesses Ruth Paben and Antoinette Romano.

Loretta Dziadek



I would like to say a Big Huge Thank You to everyone who participated in the sixteenth 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 (twelve 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, and 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, Johnny Busse, David Hauschild, Jeannie Holland, Dorthy Gerhart, Kenny Willingham, Fabian Aguirre, Karen Schaare, Patricia Gum, Eric Gum, Bill Blume, Tony Jackson, and Nick Novicke. Thank you to the preschool staff, preschool board members, preschool parents and church members 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: Stacy Hendry, Ariana Mock, Brianne Nelson, Shealyn Green, Lysie Necker, Melanie Koy, Jessica Knesek, Becky Mills, Meagan Cordes, Manda Quinton, and Lauren Bird for the involvement of collecting all items for the Trinity Lutheran Preschool Silent Auction Basket.

Thank you to Lysie Necker and Beanne Nelson for putting the items together and for the beautiful wrapping around the basket to made the basket appealing.

Thank you to all the parents who donated towards the basket to make this auction a success. Thanks to all the preschool teachers for all the hard work put into the class projects for the silent auction. You are greatly appreciated for all you do.

Thank you to Breanne Nelson for the great idea featuring an art display. She donated her time to help the children create their masterpiece. We want to thank Sealy Concrete for donating the supplies for the children to be able to make their masterpiece. Each child made a priceless keepsake. Parents thank you so much for your donation towards the preschool in purchasing your child’s masterpiece.

Thanks to Robin Jacobson for coordinating the Silent Auction. Thanks to Rhonda Pavelka and Jodine Meyer helping with the auction during the dinner.

A lot of time and work goes into the preparation of this fundraiser. God has blessed this preschool in so many ways with teachers, parents, congregational members and the love of these precious children. This gives us 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 several non-perishable items 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. 1st – Dec. 5th

Jonah and the Big Fish

"What Will Last" from Preschool Devotional Book
Daniel and the Prisoner & Daniel and the Lion

Dec. 8th – Dec. 12th

Esther the Beautiful & Queen Esther Saves the People

"The Right Spot" Preschool Devotional Book

Mary and Joseph

Dec. 15th-Dec 19th

"The First Christmas"

"Filled With Love" Preschool Devotional Book

"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 fill and 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 12th at 10:00 am, leaving here at 9:45 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.



Veranda House Field Trip! After delivering the collected food to the Sealy Christian Food Pantry the children will walk to the Veranda House for Senior Living which is a privately owned personal care home providing daily care to senior citizens. Veranda House is located across from the Sealy Christian Food Pantry and the children will visit and sing Christmas Carols to the residents. Remember that field trip forms must be filled out to attend.



Let's Be Safe! Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will be at the preschool on Wednesday December 10th 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 18th the children may bring a flashlight to preschool labeled with their name. This is to recognize that December 21st 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 19th! 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. 8th – Dec. 12th

Alex Lazano & Tre' Martinez

Dec. 15th – Dec. 19th

Z'Ryiah McGee & Olivia Mock

Jan. 5th – Jan 9th

Abigail Mlcak & Lucas Mlcak

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 Wednesday, December 10th. 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 9th 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 purchase.

To purchase your book, please write the title or item on the envelope. Place your money in the envelopes, 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 12th. 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 17th, 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.



Help Trinity Lutheran Preschool fill the food box for the Sealy Christian Food Pantry for their field trip! Boxes are located in the narthex and by the church office.



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



MINUTES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 2014

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by Vice President George Wied. Norma Pavelka presented a devotion from Trust in God Day by Day. George Wied said the prayer.

Council Members Present:

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor
George Wied - Vice President
Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer
Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair
Valerie Engelbrecht - Education/Youth Chair
Ruth Szymanski – Evangelism
Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair
Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair
Johanna Buechmann - Secretary

Council Members Absent:

Dale Toellner – President
Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair

Minutes from the October 13, 2014 meeting were presented for review and approval. Carol Jean Hauschild made motion to accept minutes. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Unfinished/Old Business:

*Grace Holtkamp updated council on historical marker and that dedication will be in February 2015.

Chair Reports:

Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer

*The October 31, 2014 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$68,526.46, Building Fund is \$54,051.93, Designated Funds is \$48,658.90 and Total - All Funds is \$171,237.29. The General Fund Contributions is \$12,976.00. Total management and general expenses is \$13,544.95. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$(568.95). General Fund Expenditures is \$13,544.95.

*Designated Funds were reviewed.

*Motion made by Pastor Franke to use RWL Ministries designated fund to purchase a TV/DVD player combo to play service DVD's to nursing home and shut in members. Fred Paben seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair (absent) *No report presented.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

*Circuit Forum is Sunday, November 16th at St. John's Lutheran Church in Wharton. Valerie Engelbrecht made motion for Lee Hobratschk to attend forum as a delegate with Pastor Franke and nominate Pastor Wayne Schueler as circuit visitor. Norma Pavelka seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

*Delinquent members will be tabled until next year.

George Wied - Vice President

*Call Committee has 3 of 5 candidates to have conference calls with. These calls are setup for Thursday, November 13th in the evening. An update was given on future events for the committee.

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor

*Confirmation is November 23rd during morning worship service with Profession of Faith on November 19th at 7:00 pm. There are 6 students being confirmed.

*Pastor will be gone the first advent service and services on December 14th and Christmas Eve.

Valerie Engelbrecht- Education/Youth Chair *The youth and Sunday School children will be part of Christmas program on December 14th.

*Youth service will be part of confirmation service on November 23rd.

*Patricia Gum volunteered to head the Youth Board and there will be a meet and greet with Patricia and her husband with youth.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*No report presented.

*Lee Hobratchk thanked Ruth for work done on nominating committee.

*Lee had a question on visitor station guest book and blue cards whether visitors are contacted.

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair

*Reception for Profession of Faith on Wednesday, November 19th.

*Soup Suppers will be hosted by Altar Guild (December 3rd), Council (December 10th), and Choir (December 17th).

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*An update on paving the back parking lot was given to council.

*Suppliers found to order from. Fred got MasterCard through Sam's Club and so will Maggie Kent.

*Parking stripes will be redone.

Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair

*Everything is going good.

*Discussion on volunteers to sack groceries at food pantry without a church coordinator.

Vice President Wied called for a motion to approve the Chair Reports. Motion was made by Lee Hobratchk to accept the Chair Reports as presented. Valerie Engelbrecht seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

New Business:

*Letter received from Sealy Christian Food Pantry to use Fellowship hall and kitchen on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 for Pancake Supper. Fred Paben made motion and seconded by Carol Jean Hauschild to let the Food Pantry use facilities on this date. All approved. Motion carried.

*Letter received about 60th annual convention in June. This was tabled to next meeting.

*Letter received from Stroke Scan to use the Fellowship hall on March 12, 2015 after pre-school from 1 to 7 pm depending on number of sign ups. A representative will talk the Sunday before to give information and sign up individuals. Fred Paben made motion and Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion to let Stroke Scan use the facility on this date. All approved. Motion carried.

*No further new business.

There being no further business, Vice President Wied called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Carol Jean Hauschild to adjourn meeting. Lee Hobratchk seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Valerie Engelbrecht will do devotion for December meeting.

Next meeting will be on Monday, December 8, 2014. George Wied led all in the Lord's Prayer.

**George Wied - Vice President
Johanna Buechmann - Secretary**

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ON OCTOBER 26, 2014

Vice President George Wied called the meeting to order. President Dale Toellner was not present.

Minutes from Congregational Meeting on November 10, 2013 were read for approval. 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 floor was open to nominations. Fred Paben made motion to cease nominations with Ruby Emshoff seconding the motion. All approved. Motion carried. Bill Blume made a motion to accept nominations as presented by acclamation. Lowell Coody seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

The 2015 Proposed Budget for Trinity Lutheran Church was presented. Discussion on concern for new pastor's salary with Valerie Engelbrecht advising on the LCMS guidelines on pastor salaries based on experience. Discussion also on adding choir to the budget with none added. Charles Abel made motion to accept budget as presented. Becky Tipton seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

George Wied presented Call Committee update as top 5 candidates were called and 4 are interested on call. Teleconferences will be scheduled.

There being no further business, Vice President Wied called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Jeannie Holland, seconded by Brad Kent to adjourn. All approved. Motion carried.

George Wied closed in prayer.

**George Wied, Vice President
Johanna Buechmann, Secretary**

