



TRINITY TIDBITS

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



THE “WEAK” WORD OF THE LORD

Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

JANUARY 2015

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:45 am Fellowship
9:05 am Sunday School
&

Bible Study
10:15 am Worship

Church Phone:
979.885.2211
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Web site
www.flcsealy.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

“God doesn’t need us to defend His Word, only to proclaim it. His is a ‘weak’ word anyway.” That is what the speaker said, and it caught my attention!

Indeed, God doesn’t need us to defend His Word, for “God’s name is certainly holy in itself,” and “The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer,” just as “His good and gracious will is done even without our prayer.” But we pray that by His grace God will continue to include us in the doing of His will as we keep His name holy by our words and deeds. May God continue to use us as His instruments in spreading His Kingdom!

God does call on us to proclaim His Word: “Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me.’” (*Exodus 8:1*) “I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame, for I delight in your commands because I love them.” (*Psalms 119:46-47*) “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (*Acts 1:8*)

In the eyes of the world, God’s Word is indeed ‘weak’! “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” (*1 Corinthians 1:18*) “Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.” (*1 Corinthians 1:25*)

The themes of the lessons in the Sundays after Epiphany is the “weakness” of God’s Word. We have seen the glory of God in the little baby at Bethlehem, who needed Mary to nurse Him and change His swaddling cloths! “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us!” (*John 1:14*)

Jesus showed Himself in caring, healing, forgiving, and teaching those who called forth pity, not pride. Jesus did not stand in haughty disapproval when people with unclean skin ailments approached Him; instead He reached out to touch and heal them. In His healing of the man brought on the pallet by his friends, Jesus went beyond the expected and forgave his sins as well.

We begin to see Jesus clearly in a life that is filled with humble service, not bravado and might! While the world respects power and force, the Word of God comes in weakness to meet us in our need. We are not driven away by His grandeur, but rather are drawn into His love by His simplicity.

When we admit our weakness, we are healed by His power hidden behind the cross!

Gil Franke



GREETINGS TO YOU ON THIS SPECIAL DAY

1/03 DAVID KAINER	1/11 LILA MEYER	1/25 Doug Browne
1/06 Peggy Jurek	1/12 Johnny Busse	1/27 Shari Cleveland
1/06 Kimberly Kornegay	1/14 John Schier	1/27 Patsy Novosad
1/07 Dale Leland	1/15 Theresa Terrell	1/29 Elgien Konesheck Jr.
1/08 Jeannie Holland	1/16 Fred Paben	1/29 Stephanie Meyer
1/08 Melody Anderson	1/18 Lisa H. Barrett	1/29 Marty Schiller
1/08 Royce Sebesta	1/19 Rachel Epperly	1/29 Nickolas Pavelka
1/09 Meagan Keeton	1/19 PRESTON VILLALOVOZ	1/30 Beverly Ekarius
1/09 Stephanie Sneed		



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

LET'S REJOICE WITH THESE COUPLES AS THEY CELEBRATE THE DESIGNATED ANNIVERSARIES.

1/02/1993 George & Janice Wied	1/11/1958 Melvin & Pat Schmidt ♥
1/04/1992 Jerry & Julie Ebers	1/15/1956 Royce and Viola Sebesta ♥
1/04/1992 Jimmie & Jodine Meyer	

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>
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With Heartfelt *Sympathy* **Sympathy** for the family of Ernestine Schneider who went to be with her Lord on December 13, 2014. Please keep her family in your prayers. She will be greatly missed.

CONGRATULATIONS!!! *There's a new member in the Kent Family! Danyell Magdamar Knapp arrived on December 10, 2014 at 4:35am weighing 7lbs-8oz and 20 1/4 inches long at the Texas Children's Women's Pavilion. Proud parents are Monica Kent and Marc Knapp. Grandparents are Brad and Maggie Kent and John and Tay Knapp.*

CONGRATULATIONS!!! *There is a new member in the Villalovoz Family. Dawson Jacob Villalovoz arrived on December 12, 2014 at 11:36 pm weighing 7lbs and 14 ounces and 18 1/2 inches long at Memorial Hermann, Katy. Proud parents are Michael and Rachel Villalovoz. Proud grandparents are Carl and Carol Wied and Johnny and Stella Villalovoz.*



Trinity Lutheran Preschool would like to say thank you to Pastor Gilbert and Beth Franke for the monetary gift towards books for the preschool program. You are greatly appreciated!



Altar Guild would like to thank everyone that bought poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary. God's Blessings to All.



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.



Circle of Friends

When: Wednesday, January 7th

Time: 12:15 pm

Senior Day will be renamed Circle of Friends starting in January to include our younger seniors and those younger that would like to have lunch with us. Join us on January 7th at 12:15 for lunch. Please sign up in the narthex if you would like to attend or bring a dessert. Contact Mary Buechmann, Antoinette Romano or Geraldine Barrett for any questions.



Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid Society met on December 4th for their annual Christmas party and fellowship with eight members and three guests present.

Members enjoyed Christmas music lead by Robert Richter. Gifts were exchanged among the members and nonperishable food items were brought by members which were given to The Sealy Christian Food Pantry.

The January birthday party at Colonial Belle Nursing Home will be given by the members of the Ladies Aid.

The books will be audited by Vivian Kveton and Antoinette Romano.

Hostesses for January will be Vivian Kveton and Antoinette Romano.

After the closing and table prayers were given, refreshments, brought by members were served by hostesses Rose Marie Trenckmann and Loretta Dziadek.

Out next meeting will be on January 8, 2015

Loretta Dziadek



Wow, it is hard to believe that half of the school year is gone! I hope that everyone had a great Christmas and you are ready for 2015. I know that God has a lot of plans for all of us for this year. Always pray and God will guide you to the right path. Enjoy your new year!

The staff and I would like to say "thank you" to everyone for the wonderful gifts that

were given to us for Christmas. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated!



Fantasy of Lights! I would like to thank Tim and Dana Hrachovy for decorating the float and having it ready for Fantasy of Lights.

Reminder! Preschool will be closed Monday January 19th for Public School Holiday.

Reminder! Please continue to collect aluminum cans, used postage stamps and Campbell Soup Labels for the preschool!

Thanks to everyone for all you do in your help and support of the preschool.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISER!!



TRINITY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL CHICKEN SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER!

Trinity Lutheran Preschool is having a
Chicken Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Wednesday, February 11, 2015

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

DRIVE THRU ONLY! Tickets \$10.00

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



Themes! The theme for the month of January is Community Helpers, such as doctors, firemen, policemen, veterinarians and many more. The children will play out roles in their classrooms and learn the importance of these careers and how people serve and help the community.

The letters for the month for the classes that are ready to move on are P, L, U, G, and H. The shape and color for the classes will be learning are SQUARE and YELLOW.

The Bible Stories for the month are:

Jan. 5th – Jan. 9th

"Think and Learn" (PS Devotional Book)

"A Sick Servant"

Jan. 12th – Jan. 16th

"The Farmer's Seed"

"Happy Friends" PS Devotional Book

"A Tiny Seed and a Big Tree"

Jan. 19th - Jan. 23rd

"The Net"

"Important People" PS Devotional Book

"The Net"


Jan. 26th - Jan. 30th

"The Treasure and the Pearl"


"Doing Good" PS Devotional Book

"Wind and the Waves"

The Bible Verse for the month is: "Trust in the Lord and do Good" Psalm 37:3. The Commandment for the month is: You shall not murder. The children will learn the meaning that we should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

 **Dress As A Community Helper!** On Friday, January 23rd we would like the children to come to school as one of their favorite community helpers! During the entire month we will be learning about our community and how our community helpers provide the necessities for us to live a better life.


Who knows what these little preschoolers will be when they grow up. But what an opportunity to have them dress and act out a role who they think is an important part of their lives and the encouragement to grow and become one.


 **Food Pantry!** The children and parents had a great time delivering the food to the Sealy Christian Food Pantry on Friday December 12th. Each year it is amazing how much food is collected.

Thanks to all the preschool parents and their children, along with Cotton Boll Quilters, Ladies Aid Society, and Church Members. We thank you for all the food collected! Thank you to Sue Kristynik for informing the children why the Sealy Christian Food Pantry is so important to the community.

The children were so cute taking their walking field trip to the Pantry with the parents pulling the wagons. Most of all the children

learn why we collect the food and the procedure of how food is given to the ones in need.

 **Wear Yellow Day!** On Wednesday January 21st the children can wear the color YELLOW to reinforce the color for the month.

 **Family of the Week!**

Family of the week is a program we have that gives an opportunity to share their family with everyone. Each week a family will be chosen to be Family of the Week.

Your child should 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 January are:

Jan. 5th - Jan. 9th

Abigail Mlcak

Lucus Mlcak

Jan. 12th - Jan. 16th

Betty Rose Moreno

Ellington Mulvany

Jan. 19th - Jan. 23rd

Luke Necker


Isaac Olvera

Jan. 26th - Jan. 30th


Ella Hope Novicke

Hudson Novicke

Please hand your pictures to your child's teacher the Friday before your child is Family of the Week!

 **Crazy Hat Day!** On Friday January 9th, the children are having a Crazy Hat Day! This is a fun day for the children to wear or decorate a hat and make it as silly as possible to wear to preschool.

We always enjoy and love to see the children on any silly day because they are so cute and adorable! I love when the parents help their children get very creative on any silly day. So decorate a hat and make it silly!

 **Popcorn and Movie Day!** Did you know the official popcorn month is in October but according to the tradition the national popcorn day is celebrated on January 19th? Did you know that the Native Americans actually discovered "Corn Popping." Popcorn became famous during

the Great Depression of 1933 that spread across the world and United States. During the depression, popcorn was considered a snack food.

During the days of the Great Depression, corn was the only weapon for the struggling farmers of America who used it to raise their income.

On Wednesday January 28th, the preschoolers will enjoy the history of popcorn along with a movie. Please have your child bring a snack bag of popcorn to preschool and a boxed drink so we can enjoy our popcorn with a movie. The movie the preschoolers will watch will be a Veggie Tale Movie



At Home Safety! Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will come to the preschool to talk to the children about Safety at Home. This is a great opportunity for the children to learn what to do if someone comes to the front door. Do I answer the door or what do I do? Mr. Gary will also talk to the children about telephones, guns, matches, electricity, household products and helmet safety.

Some of us have swimming pools, so he will talk to the children about pool safety, floods, streams, creeks and other water safety issues.

He will talk to the children about storms, lightening and tornadoes and what we need to do about critters such as raccoons, good snakes, bad snakes, spiders, bees and much more.

All this will take place on Wednesday, January 14^h at 10:00 am. Maybe your child will come home and teach you a little about safety at home!



Camouflage Day! On Friday January 16th, the preschoolers can come dressed in camouflage pants, tops, hats etc. This can be any color of camouflage and if you do not have camouflage, just wear the colors of camouflage.

Camouflage also means to hide, just like Jesus hid in the tomb for three days before he joined God. But even though we are blended, God still wants us to stand out. So don't forget Camouflage Day!

In Christ, Ms. Maggie



MINUTES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2014

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President Dale Toellner, who also said the prayer. The devotion was an open discussion on Christianity challenges.

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

Ruth Szymanski – Evangelism

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair , Pat

Buechmann - Usher Chair

Johanna Buechmann - Secretary

Council Members Absent: Valerie Engelbrecht
- Education/Youth Chair

Minutes from the November 10, 2014 meeting were presented for review and approval. Carol Jean Hauschild made a motion to accept minutes. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Unfinished/Old Business:

*Advent Soup Supper hosted by Council on December 10th - planned meal

*2015 Texas District Convention June 4-6, 2015 in San Marcos - Nominations for President and Area Vice President needed; Update from Circuit Forum; Pastor Schueler reelected to Circuit Visitor. Trinity will need to send Pastor delegate and Laymen delegate to district convention to vote. The congregation will be asked if there is a volunteer to attend convention. Motion made by George Wied to nominate Pastor Henning for President and Pastor Hobratschk for Area D Vice President. Marlene Leiber seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Chair Reports:

Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer

*The November 30, 2014 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$73,896.63, Building Fund is \$54,145.07, Designated Funds is \$49,028.90 and Total - All Funds is \$177,070.60. The General Fund Contributions is \$17,910.00. Total management and general expenses is \$12,539.83. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$5,370.17. General Fund Expenditures is \$12,539.83.

*Discussion on Janitorial bill.

*Discussion on break down of BBQ. Refer to Janice Wied.

Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair

*Committee would like members to use assigned envelopes instead of pew envelopes.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

*Circuit Forum update discussed.

*Pastor Franke will not be at December 14th and December 24th services. Pastor will be here December 25th.

*Discussion on Discretionary Fund to purchase gift cards for food and gas to help those in need. Elders to decide what to purchase.

*Discussion about candles in Sanctuary with Altar Guild members present.

George Wied - Vice President

*Call Committee update and discussion on 2 possible candidates. George will plan details for meet and greets.

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor

*Confirmation completed in November.

*First Communion to start in January.

*Pastor is deciding on next confirmation class.

*Adult member class to start in January.

Valerie Engelbrecht- Education/Youth Chair (absent) *No report presented.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*No report presented.

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair

*Discussion on soup suppers and Pastor meet and greets.

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*Duraclean will shine floors this month.

*New contract signed with Brilliant Energy for 3 years.

Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair

*Everything is going good.

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

New Business:

*Pastor stipend for special services during November and December: Motion made by George Wied to continue giving Pastor Franke \$125 a service for 4 services. Ruth Szymanski seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

*No further new business.

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

Norma Pavelka will do devotion for January meeting.

Next meeting will be on Monday, January 12, 2015. Dale Toellner led all in the Lord's Prayer.

*George Wied, Vice President
Johanna Buechmann, Secretary*

