



TRINITY TIDBITS

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



GOD'S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE!

Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

FEBRUARY 2015



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,
832-419-2998

Bobby Barrett, 885-3450

Tracy Schiller, 865-2748

Joel Grigar, 885-1415

**Ash Wednesday February
18th with Rite of First
Communion
Soup Supper 6:00 pm
Celebrating 1st Communion
Students
Worship with Communion
7:00 pm**



What is it that people say about Christian education, "From the cradle to the grave?" That is certainly true! Growing in Christ is not just a matter of confirmation knowledge. It is also a daily practice of good Bible study and worship habits. The great heritage of Christian education involves daily devotion, Bible reading, weekly worship, and regular Bible study.

Patterns and priorities that are learned when we are children guide our thoughts and actions throughout life. Parents may think they are doing their children a favor by letting them sleep-in on Sunday mornings; after all, the pressures of school and extra-curricular activities can be tough on youth and teenagers. But the pressures of adult life will be much more difficult if there isn't a biblical and devotional foundation to build on in times of crises.

Parents may think their children will make the right choices about life when the time comes, so they let them choose whether or not to attend Sunday School and church now. But those same parents will regret those decisions when their grandchildren are not baptized and brought up to know Jesus. God's command is that we teach His truths to our children so they and their children may know His Word. A great heritage reaches into the future as well as from the past.

God's law says "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." Dr. Martin Luther explained that this extends to gladly hearing and learning God's Word. If we think it is alright to forget the Sabbath day by ignoring God's Word, we must be reminded that the greatest threat to forgiveness is failure to recognize our sin. Have you ever tried to forgive someone for a hurt he has caused you when he thinks he has done nothing wrong? We do our children no favor if we allow them to think there is no sin in breaking God's law.

When we are touched by God's Word of promise, we are called to trust in the redeeming death of Christ our Savior. We know the power of His forgiveness and the promise of eternal life in heaven. Our faith is strengthened and we are kept in His grace. Our hearts are informed by God's will so that we may do the good works He has planned for us to do. We become lights of God's love pointing others to Christ.

It is our responsibility, and our joy, to pass on to our children this great heritage we received from our parents.

Gil Franke



Dedication of the Historical Marker



On February 11, 1883, the first church service was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sealy. Many changes have taken place at Trinity during the past 132 years.

On Sunday, February 8, 2015 Trinity will dedicate a Historical Marker to commemorate its long history. The dedication service will be held immediately after the 10:15 am church service.

Members of the congregation invite you and any friends in the community to attend this event. Following the dedication, light refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall.



GREETINGS TO YOU ON THIS SPECIAL DAY

2/01 Amber Jacobson	2/11 GAGE GRIGAR	2/22 Jerry Grunke
2/08 Sabrina Schiller	2/11 Darrell Palm	2/24 Diane Henry
2/08 Troy Tesch	2/14 Dorthy Gerhart	2/25 Mildred Pless
2/09 COURTNEY DZIADEK	2/14 John Griffin	2/25 Charles Abel
		2/28 CHARLIE ARRIAGA
		2/28 Joyce Amthor



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

2/01/1946 Edwin & Estelle Remmert ♥	2/24/2007 Cy and Ashley Vojtek
2/11/1967 Dale & Sieg Leland	



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 – Veranda House – 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</p> <p>Charles Bolten Colonial Belle - Sealy</p>
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To Trinity Lutheran Church and Preschool
 Thank you for your recent food contribution to the
 Sealy Christian Food Pantry. The food you
 donated will help us continue to provide much
 needed food to families in our area. We very much
 appreciate your support,
 Sincerely,
 Christian Food Pantry



Baptism Gabrielle Munoz is proud to
 announce Autumn and Grant Martinez has been
 received into God's Kingdom through Holy Baptism
 on Thursday, December 25, 2014 administered by
 Rev. Gilbert Franke.



Baptism Michael and Rachel Villalovoz are
 proud to announce Dawson Jacob Villalovoz has
 been received into God's Kingdom through Holy
 Baptism on Sunday, January 11, 2015 administered
 by Rev. Gilbert Franke.



The Youth Of Trinity Lutheran
 Church
 Will Be Honored to Serve Members 70
 and Older
 And Their Spouses
 A Valentine's Over 70's Dinner
 Lasagna/Green Beans/Salad/Garlic Bread
 Tea and Coffee
 Sunday, February 15, 2015
 After the Worship Service
 Please RSVP to Church Office by Feb.
 8th.

Thank you
 Dear Friends in Christ,
 What a blessing for us to visit with you folks
 this last week! Many thanks for your kind
 welcome and generosity. Thanks especially to
 Gil and Beth for the Chinese dinner; Bill and
 Betty for the tour and Bill for lunch at the
 golf club; to all who provided the chili dinner;
 and to Gene and Betty for breakfast before
 we left! So gracious! You folks have a
 wonderful congregation and I am confident
 that God will abundantly bless you in the days
 ahead!

In Christian Love,
 Rev. Allan and Caroline Eckert

Songs Along the Way

A journey through Lent

Our Lenten pilgrimage begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, with a soup supper at 6:00 p.m., followed by a Communion service, concluding with the imposition of ashes.

This year we will use the theme from a Lenten devotional booklet provided by Lutheran Social Services of the South: *Songs Along the Way*. The reflections each week will consider a Psalm which may have been used by the Jewish faithful in their pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover and by Jesus and his disciples during their week before the crucifixion.

Each Wednesday's service will focus on one of the themes from the devotion booklet and draw from an event or attitude in Jesus' suffering.

February 18th -6:00 pm Soup Supper by Altar Guild
Worship 7:00 pm (The Song of the Soul) Psalm 51

February 25th – 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Preschool
Worship 7:00 pm (Songs in the Night) Psalm 77

March 4th – 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Youth
Worship 7:00 pm (Songs of Wonder) Psalm 105

March 11th -6:00 pm Soup Supper by _____
Worship 7:00 pm (Songs for the Journey) Psalm 84

March 18th-6:00 pm Soup Supper by Ladies Aid
Worship 7:00 pm (A Song of Thankfulness) Psalm 107

March 25th-6:00 pm Soup Supper by _____
Worship 7:00 pm (A Song for the Moment) Psalm 119

Holy Week:

April 2nd– Maundy Thursday Worship Service with
Communion 7:00 pm

Songs for Tomorrow Psalm 22

April 3rd –Good Friday Worship Service 7:00 pm
The Song of Silence Psalm 22

Make our Wednesday services part of your Lenten discipline, a conscientious observance of self-examination, scriptural meditation, and spiritual growth in preparation for our celebration of the Queen of Church Festivals, the Resurrection of our Lord. On this journey, understand the intensity of Jesus' love for you, the depth of despair from which He rescued you, and the height of joy to which He calls you.

You Just Have to Believe, . . .

. . . our prayers have been answered! For two years, at the end of almost every worship service, in our corporate prayers we have asked for God's guidance and for our discernment of His will concerning who it is that He has already selected to be the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church. Add to those prayers the daily prayers of all our members.

You just have to believe, our prayers have been answered, at least up to this point. We may rest assured that God's will was carried out in the vote on Sunday, January 25, that we extended a Divine Call to Rev. Ken Bersche to be our pastor. Our prayers continue to plead God's throne that Pastor Bersche be led to a decision directed by the Holy Spirit whether to accept or return this Call. **Please note:** we do not pray that he accept or that he return the Call, but that he come to know God's will in this decision!

Then when the next pastor of Trinity Lutheran, Sealy, is installed, whether it be Pastor Bersche or another pastor who may be called in the future, we will know that he is the man our Lord has chosen for our congregation at that particular time. And we will all support him, pray for him, assist him, and follow his leadership, because to do otherwise would be to act contrary to God's will.

You just have to believe, because God has promised to hear and answer our prayers, especially when we pray in Jesus' name, for His blessings and our spiritual good.

– **Pastor Franke**



Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid Society met on January 8th with six members present.

President Antoinette Romano called the meeting to order and an opening prayer was given.

The topic "New School Prayer" was then given.

Plans for the birthday party at Colonial Belle Nursing Home on January 17th were discussed.

Hostesses for February will be Ruth Paben and Ruby Emshoff.

After the meeting adjourned and the table and closing prayers were given, refreshments brought by members were served by hostesses Vivion Kveton and Antoinette Romano.

Our next meeting will be on February 5th.

Loretta Dziadek



Circle of Friends



When: Wednesday, February 4th

Time: 12:15 pm

Sign Up To Attend!!

Come join us for “Circle of Friends” to include our younger seniors and those younger that would like to have lunch with us.

Join us on February 4th at 12:15 for lunch. Come enjoy the meal and fellowship! Remember to invite your friends and neighbors.

Please sign you and your friends 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.



Singing in Church! We all know

the wonderful feeling of watching our child/children perform for us. On Sunday, February 22nd please make plans for all the preschoolers to join us for the 10:15 am worship service. The children will be in front of the church and sing some of the wonderful songs that they learned in chapel.

Each year the congregation looks forward to hearing the preschool sing praise and be part of the worship service. This is one way we can give back to the church for the support that they give to the preschool.

Please let your child’s teacher know whether or not you and your child can attend. This is a great time to invite family and friends to watch the children sing.

Please arrive at 10:00 am and drop off your child in their classrooms. This will give us ample time to practice and be ready for church.

It is very important that you drop off your child and leave IMMEDIATELY because the longer you stay the harder it is on your child. We want your child to be happy and sing beautifully so you will be proud of them. Please mark Sunday, February 22nd on your calendar to sing. Your child

is little only once so don’t let you and your child miss out on this program.

Dr. Zboril’s Office Visits Preschool The themes for the month of February are: Hygiene, Dental and Health. The children will learn the importance of hand washing, right nutrition and how exercise can keep you healthy.

Teachers will talk to the children about health items such as soap, combs, brushes, toothpaste, toothbrushes and many more items that will keep you healthy.

Bobbie Novicke from Dr. Zboril’s office will come to the preschool on Thursday February 26th at 10:00 am to talk to the four year old classes about Dental Hygiene.

The children will learn the importance of seeing a dentist on a regular basis. Bobbie will also show the children the correct way of flossing and brushing.

The Bible Stories for the month of February are:

Feb. 2nd – Feb 6th

One Touch

“Take a Rest” (PS Devotional Book)

A Big Picnic

Walking on Water

Feb. 9th – Feb 13th

Open House

“Good Books” (PS Devotional Book)

Money in a Fish

Feb. 16th – Feb. 20th

A Good Neighbor

“Smart Animals” (PS Devotional Book)

Listening

Feb. 23rd – Feb 27th

The Woman Who Could Not Stand Up

“Great Big Hugs” (PS Devotional Book)

The Lost Sheep

The Bible Verse for the month is “Love One Another” (John 13:34). The children will learn the Sixth Commandment: “You Shall Not Commit Adultery” and learn the meaning that we should fear and love God, live a pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other. We will learn the color PINK and the shape HEART and the letters P, H, L, U, and G.

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 will be 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 February are:

February 2nd – February 6th

Julissa Olvera & Elijah Olvera
February 9th – February 13th
Darius Page & Gage Quinton
February 16th – February 20th
Grayson Roberts & Noah Rosas
February 22nd – February 27th

Damian Saucedo & Taylor Scheerer

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

 **Bring PINK Items!** On Friday February 20th, please have your child bring PINK items to preschool to reinforce the color for the month!

 **Go Western Day!** Go Western Day will be Friday February 27th. The children can come to preschool dressed in western clothes to promote the Houston Rodeo!

The children can wear western jeans, western shirts, boots, hats, bandanas and belt. Please NO GUNS! Spurs may be worn but will be taken away if they hurt another child. So let's see all the cowboys and cowgirls!

 **Bring a Postage Stamp!** Each child will need to bring a postage stamp to their child's teacher for the special valentine card to be mailed by the children to their parents. The preschool office will not sell stamps, so please be sure your child brings one stamp to school. You may want to check with your child's teacher to make sure one stamp will be enough, depending on the size and weight of the valentine project.

Children will learn a little about the postal system in their classrooms. The teachers will have a center for the children to make cards, write letters and pretend to be a mail carrier, etc.

Please have your stamps here by Friday, February 6th, so the valentine cards can be mailed out in ample time for you to receive by mail.

The children will place the valentine cards in the church mailbox outside the door for the postal carrier to take with them.

If your child has not brought a stamp for their valentine card to be mailed you may pick up the card in your child's cubby.

 **Valentine's Party!** The preschool will have their Valentine Party on **Thursday, February 12th, 9:30 am – 10:30 am** instead of Wednesday due to the Preschool Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser.

We will have an English muffin pizza party. There will be a sign up list for you to bring English muffins, pizza sauce and mozzarella cheese and help with the supervision of games.

Each child will also need to bring a valentine card for each of their classmates for exchanging. Check with your child's teacher for a list of children in their class.

 **Fall Registration!** Fall registration will begin Monday, March 2nd and end on Tuesday, March 31st for the families that are enrolled in the program now! This is giving you first chance to enroll your child for the 2015-2016 school year. Registration packets will be ready for you to pick up on Monday, March 2nd in the preschool office.

After Tuesday, March 31st, the enrollment is open to the waiting list and the public. So if you are planning on having your child attend Trinity, please come by the office and pick up a packet and return it with registration fee.

Non-refundable registration fee for the 2015-2016 school year is \$80.00. But for early registration and for the month of March and for the ones in the program now will have a discount from \$80.00 to \$65.00 until March 31st. Beginning April 1st the registration will be \$80.00.

Along with registration fee, I must have all enrollment forms completed and turned into the office. Registration will be on first come basis.

 **Extra Clothing!** Please have an extra set of clothing in your child's cubby. If your child has been sent home with Trinity clothing could you please return the clothing in case we need them for an emergency.

 **Preschool Soup Supper!** Preschool will have their Lenten Soup Supper on Wednesday February 25th from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm. You can come and support the preschool and have a bowl of different varieties of soups made by the preschool board and preschool staff.

Along with the soup we also prepare cornbread and desserts. The soup supper is a love donation of whatever you would like to give to help the preschool. The best is eating different soups prepared for you and not having to cook dinner.

Please come and bring the entire family and support the preschool and have some delicious soup. After you have finished your soup, you may stay for the church service that begins promptly at 7:00 pm.

So mark this event on your calendar and be here at 6:00 pm for soup and an invitation to stay for worship. This is another way preschool earns funds to help with different costs that come our way. Please come and support your child's preschool.

 **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 fully 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!



**MINUTES OF TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2015**

Potty training is possible if the teacher and parents work together. For the ones that are not potty trained this would be a great time to start. Talk to your child's teacher and between the both of you working towards this goal your child will be ready for the three year old class next year.

Please work with your child at home, supervising them to take down their own bottoms and get themselves onto the toilet, wipe, flush and pull up their own bottoms. By working together, let's make this our goal for them to go potty without assistance.



Thanks in advance to everyone who helped in purchasing items for the Chicken Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. Thank you to Mary and Pat Buechmann in helping prepare the dinner and Trinity Lutheran staff for helping serve the dinners. I want to say thank you again to all for your help in donations to support and raise money for the preschool and sharing the love of Jesus to the children. You are what makes this preschool successful!

Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind. For Your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in Your faithfulness.

(Psalm 26:2-3)

*In Christ,
Ms. Maggie*



Easter Crosses - The Youth

will be selling Easter Crosses after church in the narthex beginning on Sunday February 15th 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!!!!



Food Truck -

The Houston Food Bank and Sealy Christian Food Pantry would like to say thank for volunteering to help unload and give food to the area people. The Houston Food Bank truck will be at Trinity Lutheran again on Tuesday, February 24th from 1pm-3pm and needs your help. Please contact the church office if you would like to help.

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President Dale Toellner who also said the prayer. Norma Pavelka presented the devotion The Unexpected Answer (Romans 8:28).

- 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
 - Valerie Engelbrecht - Education Chair
 - Patricia Gum - Youth Chair
 - Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair
 - Johanna Buechmann - Secretary
- Council Members Absent: none

Minutes from the December 8, 2014 meeting were presented for review and approval. Carol Jean Hauschild made a motion to accept minutes. George Wied seconded the motion. All approved and the motion carried.

Unfinished/Old Business:

*Motion made by George Wied to reimburse Pastor Eckert for mileage of 485 miles for total of \$271.60. Valerie Engelbrecht seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Chair Reports:

Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer

*The December 31, 2014 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$78,747.09, Building Fund is \$54,893.13, Designated Funds is \$55,525.23 and Total - All Funds is \$189,165.45. The General Fund Contributions is \$21,191.28. Total management and general expenses is \$16,340.82. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$4,850.46. General Fund Expenditures is \$16,340.82.

*Discussion on designated funds for RWL Ministries and Lutheran Witness.

*Discussion on last year's contributions for call committee.

Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair

*Contribution envelopes need to be given to past confirmation students.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

*Elders will keep Discretionary Fund as is and will use vouchers.

*Discussion on video equipment maintenance/repair.

*New Elders will receive keys to facility.

*Lee and Maggie went through old keys.

George Wied - Vice President

*Pastor Bersche and wife will visit on January 19th for meet and greet at 6:30 pm. Discussion followed.

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor

*First Communion class started for fifth graders along with second year confirmation class.

*Adult class will start end of January or in February.

Valerie Engelbrecht- Education

*Valerie and Patricia met and discussed plans.

*Sunday School going well.

*Calendar planned for 6 months to include Over 70's Valentine Lunch on February 15th, Youth Lenten Soup Supper on March 4th, Youth Service on Palm Sunday March 29th and Vacation Bible School June 16th- 18th.

*Youth will start selling Lenten crosses Sunday, February 15th.

*Discussion on Glory Bound for high school youth and National Youth Convention in New Orleans in June 2016.

Patricia Gum - Youth

*Report presented with Education report.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*Discussion on a support group for grief counseling. Ruth was given okay to pursue getting group together.

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair

*Discussion on meet and greet on January 19th.

*Soup suppers planned for Lent.

*Discussion on historical marker dedication on February 8th which is being planned by Grace Holtkamp and Fred Paben.

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*Discussion on janitorial service needs to charge sales tax due to church not registered with Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (Texas Application for Exemption - Religious Organization). Carol Jean Hauschild will check on this.

Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair

*Everything is going good.

*There are 3 new ushers and possibly 2 more.

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

New Business:

*Church Directory of Officers and Organizations 2015 presented and reviewed.

*Thank You card from Pastor Eckert and wife read.

*Request from Jason Ridings on use of facility for fundraiser on March 21st and 22nd. This request was declined as KC Hall is better suited to handle this event.

*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. Marlene Leiber seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Valerie Engelbrecht will do devotion for February meeting.

Next meeting will be on Monday, February 9, 2015. Dale Toellner led all in the Lord's Prayer.

George Wied, Vice President
Johanna Buechmann, Secretary





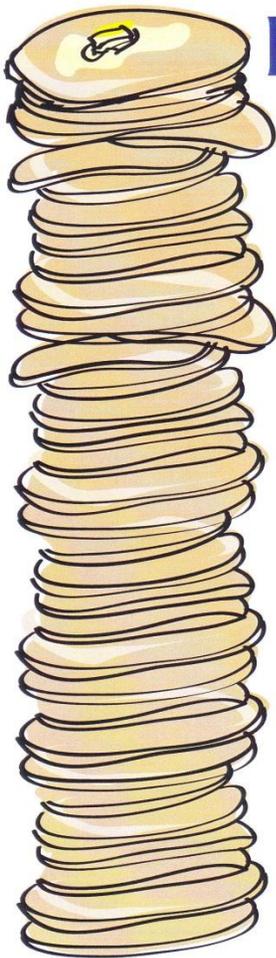
Sealy Christian Pantry



Pancake Dinner & Concert/Sing-a-long



February 17, 2015



Pancake supper/concert and sing-a-long will benefit the Sealy Christian Pantry and their ministry of feeding the hungry.



Jim Foster of Katy will be providing the gospel music concert/sing-a-long.



A free-will offering will be received – no charge.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Trinity Lutheran Church, Sealy

POSTERS DONATED BY: VISUAL PROMOTIONS