



TRINITY TIDBITS

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



His Wounds for Our Healing

Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

MARCH 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

Johnnie Sodolak 885-3873

Stephen Stuessel 885-6919

As we move through the last weeks of Lent, into Holy Week and Easter, we “keep our eyes fixed on Jesus the Author and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”
(Hebrews 12:2)

The wounds Jesus received on the cross did not disappear with His resurrection. “On the evening of the first day of the week,” John *(20:19-23 NIV)* tells us, “when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Jesus extended His peace to the disciples as He showed them the wounds which had won that peace! By His wounds — His suffering and death in the Garden and on Golgotha — Jesus has brought about healing in the fractured relationship between God and His creation — especially in the rebelliousness of all humanity. That peace is given to the disciples in the words St John recalled from the evening of the first day of that week.

The peace Jesus won and still gives to His followers is given to be shared. The power for sharing that peace is expressed in Jesus’ next words: “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”
(John 20:23 NIV)

The disciples had an opportunity to put this healing power for peace into practice that very week as they took the news of Jesus’ resurrection and appearance to their estranged brother, Thomas. AND IT WORKED! The next week Thomas was with them, and he also saw the Lord!

We still have that gift of peace in the power of Jesus’ wounds for the healing of broken relationships among us today. We still have that responsibility to share the peace that Jesus won for us and for all the world. Receive the gift you have been given, and give it to your sisters and your brothers in Christ! Share it with your neighbors! Proclaim it to those you do not yet know!

– Pastor Gil Franke

Lent



Soup Supper 6:00 pm

Worship 7:00 pm

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday

Worship/Communion



7:00 pm

Good Friday

GREETINGS TO YOU ON THIS SPECIAL DAY

3/02 Deanna Cash	3/16 Eleanor Anderson	3/26 Loyce Orsak
3/02 Joyce Meyer	3/16 Sylvia Forester	3/27 Johnny Griffin
3/03 Mary Buechmann	3/16 Tony Luttrall	3/27 Faye Hintz
3/03 JACIE KANIER	3/19 Alice Burttschell	3/28 Charles Havemann
3/04 JOLIE KAINER	3/19 Brittany Carter	3/29 Clara Gerstenberger
3/07 Terry Kieke	3/22 Valerie Engelbrecht	3/29 Joan Griffin
3/9 Gabriella Munoz	3/24 Felicia Munoz	3/30 CASE CARTER
3/11 Rhonda Browne	3/24 Marie Herridge	3/30 Phoebe Browne
3/13 Bernice Hintz	3/25 Vivian Kveton	3/30 Nichol Fullen
3/14 Suzanne Bozeman	3/26 Howard Bear	3/31 Savannah Munoz
	3/26 Brandon Blume	

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

03/18/1999 Joel and Katy Grigar	3/27/2010 Richard and Valerie Engelbrecht
---------------------------------	---


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>*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>Ethel Donnelly – Colonial Belle Sealy</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> <p>*Louise Kinsey - Colonial Belle – Sealy</p>
--	--

The Senate of Texas
Lois W. Kolkhorst
State Senator District 18

To The Congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church:

It is an honor to extend to you my congratulations on the dedication of a historical marker to commemorate the 132 year existence of Trinity Lutheran Church! I commend you on this wonderful occasion.

This celebration honors more than a century of hard work, dedication, and commitment by the members who have so positively impacted the rich heritage the church enjoys today. May success continue to be a part of all you endeavor to do as you look towards the future.

It is a privilege to be your voice in Austin. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can ever be of any service to you from this office.

Congratulations, again and best wishes to all of you as this historical marker is dedicated.

Blessings to your ministry and good work.

Sincerely,
Lois W. Kolkhorst



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!!!!



Trinity Lutheran Church, Sealy, dedicated a Texas Historical Marker on February 8, 2015 to commemorate the 132 anniversary of the founding of Trinity. Grace Holtkamp member of the Austin County Historical Commission and Lee Hobratchk, Head Elder participated in the dedication.

**Congratulations to the 1st Communion Students
On Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015**



**With Pastor Gilbert Franke
Taylor Cash, Gage Grigar, Lindsey Dziadek
Tara Hobbs and Alexis Horelica**

event or attitude in Jesus' suffering.

**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 Church Council
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 Choir
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 3th –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.



Fall Registration will begin Monday, March 2, 2015 and end on Tuesday, March 31, 2015.

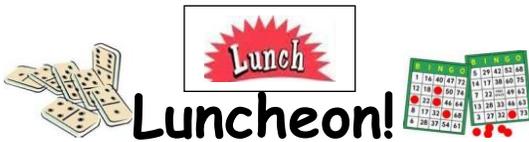
These are for the families that are enrolled in the program now. This is giving you first chance to enroll your child for the 2015-2016 school year. You may pick up a packet on Monday, March 2nd in the preschool office.

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

Non-refundable registration fee for the 2015-2016 school year is \$80.00. For the early registration, and for the month of March only, 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 the registration fee, I must have all enrollment forms completed and turned into the office. So remember that fall registration is beginning Monday, March 2nd and will end on Tuesday, March 31st, for the price of \$65.00 and this is only for the

Circle of Friends



When: Wednesday, March 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 March 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.

Lent



Songs Along the Way

A journey through Lent

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

ones that are in the program NOW! Registration will be first come first basis.

 **Dr. Seuss's Birthday** – In March schools across the United States will celebrate the birthday of one of the most beloved children's authors of our time, Dr. Seuss. Children will celebrate and honor his birthday by participating in fun activities, playing games, and reading his much-adored books.

Dr. Seuss's birthday is March 2; 1904 and his birth name is Theodor Seuss Geisel. Beth Franke, wife to our Interim Pastor Gilbert Franke, is donating her time to come to the preschool to help celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday on Monday, March 2nd beginning at 10:00 am. Beth was a librarian for many years and knows the importance of reading to young children.

 **Spring Pictures!** Kay from Treasured Portraits will come to the preschool to take spring pictures of the children. Please dress your child in spring attire. This will take place on Friday, March 13th beginning at 8:15 am.

Please be sure to fill out your order form and return it to the office with your money by Friday, March 6th.

No pictures will be taken without the required form or money.

 **Wear Orange Day!** On Friday, March 27th the children can wear the color ORANGE to school to reinforce the color for the month.

 **Family of the Week!** Family of the week is a program we have that helps children 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 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 March are:

March 2nd – March 6th Sydnee Siska Paige Stanford	March 23rd – March 27th Elias Velazquez Jaime Velazquez
March 9th – March 13th Jack Stewart	March 30th – April 3rd Travis Willingham
March 16th – March 20th Spring Break	Ryder Nelson

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

 **Themes!** The themes for the month of March are: Spring, Garden and Growing. The children will enjoy this month having fun planting something special in the classroom. They will water, nurture and watch the plant grow and realize that God creates everything for us to enjoy.

Children will have a special project to planting seeds. They will take their little starter garden home

and both child and parents can care and transplant their little garden and watch it grow.

The Bible stories for the month of March are:

March 2nd – March 6th

The Lost Coin

"Tell Your Friends" (PS Devotional Book)

The Lost Son

March 9th – March 13th

"The Man Who Remembered"

"A Peaceful Feeling" (Preschool Devotional Book)

"The Children"

March 16th – March 20th

Spring Break

March 23rd – March 27th

"Make Way for the King"

"Sing Songs" (Preschool Devotional Book)

"Washing Feet"

The Children will continue to learn the letters for the month B, V, W, E and K. The shape and color for the month is CRESENT and ORANGE.

The Bible verse for the month is: "I will be with you always". (Matthew 28:20). The Commandment for the month is The Seventh Commandment: (You shall not steal). The children will learn the meaning is to fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help to improve and protect his possessions and income.

 **Stranger Danger!** The children are ready for Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt to come to preschool. He will be here on Monday, March 9th at 10:00 am to talk to the children about Stranger Danger.

Mr. Gary will talk to the children about not leaving with someone you do not know, not to take anything from a stranger, especially candy, an animal, money or a ride in a vehicle. Only talk to another person if your mom or dad or the person you are with says it is alright and know how and when to call 911.

 **Spring Break!** Preschool will not be in session the week of March 16th – March 20th due to Spring Break.

 **Treasure Box Items Needed!** Parents, preschool is in need of small unopened toys for the classroom treasure box. If you have some and would like to donate them to the preschool the teachers would greatly appreciate it!

If you are shopping and you see very inexpensive small items for the treasure box and would like to purchase these items for the classrooms this would be greatly appreciated also!

 I would like to say a special thank you to the preschool parents participating to let their child/children sing and joining us for the luncheon. Thank you to our Interim Pastor Gilbert Franke for all the kind words expressed and how important it is to

teach our children about Jesus here at Trinity. Thank you to the congregational members who support the preschool program during the year and to have this program here at Trinity. Thank you to my special preschool staff who are the ones that work side by side with these children teaching the love of Jesus. All praise and glory goes to our Lord and Savior giving the blessings to all who are involved to make this preschool what it is. May God continue the blessings.

 **Easter Party!** The preschool Easter party will be Wednesday, April 1st 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 need to bring six plastic eggs to 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.

Thank you to all for your donations towards the Chicken Spaghetti Dinner. Thank you for all your help and dedication throughout the year where help was needed! You are greatly appreciated!

Thank You
In Christ, Ms. Maggie



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ON JANUARY 25, 2015

Pastor Schueler called the meeting to order and read scripture from Romans 10:14-15 and Numbers 27.

Dale Toellner shared information with the congregation about meets and greets.

Ballot for Pastoral Candidate was passed out and instructions given. Bio information on each candidate was read to congregation.

Pastor Schueler shared words and prayed before voting.

Ballots were collected and tallied. Dale gave information about the call process and employment. Pastor Schueler spoke also about process.

Results of Ballot: Pastor Allan Eckert 54 votes;
Pastor Kenneth Bersche 58 votes

Pastor Bersche will be given the call with Pastor Eckert second.

Motion made by Robert Richter to extend call to Pastor Bersche with a unanimous call for approval.

Jeannie Holland seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

President Toellner closed the meeting with Pastor Schueler closing with prayer.

Meeting adjourned.

George Wied, Vice President
Johanna Buechmann, Secretary



MINUTES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2015

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President Dale Toellner whom also said the prayer. Valerie Engelbrecht presented the devotion Jesus in the boat 5 Things to do in a Storm (Matthew 14:30).

Council Members Present:

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor
Dale Toellner – President
George Wied - Vice President
Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer
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: Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair

Minutes from the January 12, 2015 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:

*Texas Application for Exemption - Fred Paben received paperwork from Linda Blume showing church was exempt and verified on web site. Paperwork was forwarded to Janitor.

Chair Reports:

Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer

*The January 31, 2015 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$86,967.48, Building Fund is \$55,085.08, Designated Funds is \$55,715.23 and Total - All Funds is \$197,767.79. The General Fund Contributions is \$19,692.75. Total management and general expenses were \$11,472.36. The

Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$8,220.39. General Fund Expenditures is \$11,472.36.

*DVD player purchased and taken from RWL Ministries designated fund.

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

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

*Lee will contact Maggie to correct email and phone numbers for Elders.

*Elders decided to pay Janis Lapham \$50 for playing piano at Pastor Circuit Meeting held at church.

George Wied - Vice President

*DVD player purchased with discussion on where to store/use it.

*Pastor Bersche sent letter of acknowledgement that he received our call and signed call documents February 4, 2015 and asked for our prayers. He, along with his family, want to visit our community and church a second time before making decision. Discussion followed.

Pastor Franke - Vacancy Pastor

*First Communion class finished with students taking communion on Ash Wednesday. The cake and punch will be during Soup Supper.

*Confirmation 2nd year students will continue with class.

*Pastor is working on a new member class.

*Lent starts Ash Wednesday. Lent devotions are in narthex to pickup to go along with Lent services.

Valerie Engelbrecht - Education

*Palm Sunday Youth Service planned with Pastor doing communion. Palm Sunday celebration during Sunday School also planned.

*The board discussed the Greater Church of Lucifer in Austin County and decided to step up and get youth into church and Bible study.

Patricia Gum - Youth

*The Over 70's Valentine Luncheon will be Sunday, February 15th.

*Youth will be selling Lenten crosses on Sundays and Ash Wednesday.

*Youth will host Soup Supper on Wednesday, March 4th.

*Patricia thanked everyone for prayers as Audra Luttrall mentored during Sunday School class. Barbara Vohs helped her also.

*Meet and greet with parents of older youth (6th to 12th grade) was after church on Sunday, February 8th.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*Ruth is working on getting information for support group.

*She will get a list of visitors from Maggie to send letters to.

*Pastor Franke discussed information from contact in Bellville for a ladies group.

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair

*Choir will host Soup Supper on March 25th and Council will host Soup Supper on March 11th. Council will serve chili and extras.

*First communion cake and punch will be during Ash Wednesday Soup Supper.

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*Parking stripes painted

*Johnny Busse repaired several things around church.

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. Lee Hobratschk seconded the motion. All approved. The motion carried.

New Business:

*Discussion on moving expense for new pastor that is not in budget.

*Discussion on type of social for Pastor Bersche's second visit to Trinity with a suggestion of pot luck. Church would need to pay mileage and other expenses again.

*Pastor Franke discussed having offering plate at door during evening Lenten services except Ash Wednesday. Everyone okay with it.

*Motion was made by George Wied for 50% of Lenten offerings to include Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday to go to In Christ Alone 2016 New Orleans youth gathering and rest of 50% to general fund. Lee Hobratschk seconded the motion. All approved. The motion carried.

*No further new business.

There being no further business, President Toellner called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by George Wied to adjourn the meeting. Patricia Gum seconded the motion. All approved. The motion carried.

Carol Jean Hauschild will do devotion for March meeting.

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

George Wied, Vice President
Johanna Buechmann, Secretary

Thrivent Financial REMINDER: Members of Thrivent Financial: Please call to make your choice dollars before March 31st.