



**Building His Body By
Reflecting the Son**

October 2015



**MISSION SUNDAY
STEW LUCNHEON
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11TH
AFTER THE
WORSHIP SERVICE**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**8:30 am Fellowship
9:00 am Sunday
School & Bible Study
10:00 am Worship**

**Church Phone:
979.885.2211
Fax 979.885.7003
Web site
www.tlcsealy.org**

**Pastor: Kenneth Bersche
Pastorken@tlcsealy.org**

979-398-0762

**Maggie Kent, Office
Secretary**

ELDERS:

**Lowell Coody,
865-9638**

**Lee Hobradschk,
832-419-2998**

**Bobby Barrett,
885-3450**

**Tracy Schiller,
865-2748**

Joel Grigar, 885-1415

**Johnnie Sodolak
885-3873**

**Stephen Stuessel
885-9496**

TRINITY TIDBITS

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

**Word from
Our Pastor**

The Parable of the Two Letters

I ran across this parable written by Rev. Timothy Yeadon. I thought it was interesting, so I thought I'd share it with you:

Once there was an old faithful Pastor whose wisdom and ability to give good and sound advice was well known. So it was not an odd occurrence when one day he received two letters.

One was from a young Pastor who had just begun his ministry in the area and wanted to start off on a good foot. He needed just the right counsel to help him deal with his new church and so he asked the veteran, who knew of his congregation for years, for some of his insight into his new parish.

The second letter was from a young man who had just taken over a local farm. Since he knew the old Pastor was well acquainted with the previous farmer, the livestock and the local climate, he thought he would ask the dear minister for some sage advice in regards to the best way to farm and handle the animals.

The old veteran of the cross immediately sat down and composed two letters, one to each of them in reply to their inquiries. Mistakenly, he mixed the two letters up and sent each to the wrong party. The poor farmer appreciated all the wisdom he received in his letter but wondered why tending a farm would involve so much theology and doctrine.

For the young pastor it was even worse. He rubbed his head and stared with great amazement at the letter he mistakenly received from this wise old clergyman which read:

Take care of the sheep and lambs in your flock and remember to shear and fleece them regularly. I always like to fleece them in the spring, especially if they are coming off a good winter. Some of the younger ones are quite stubborn and like to butt heads regularly. There's one old goat who'd do anything to cause trouble for you. There may be days when the last thing you want to do is feed those filthy pigs who come to you, but remember that they are creatures of our loving God and He has made all of those whose welfare you now tend. Watch out for the silly old goose who likes to honk at anything new and unfamiliar. It is almost impossible to shut him up once he gets going. Speaking of those old birds, a few of the males will crow at you first thing in the morning and the females like to cackle with each other all day long, but it's in their nature to be that way; just don't let them peck at each other too much and hurt themselves. Take care to mend fences where you can and clear the place of any obstacles that would trip up and cripple the lambs of your flock. Be alert against the hungry wolf who always likes to hang around your place and recall that gentleness can be just as good a force as anger to get the old cows and stubborn oxen in your care to go where you want them to go. Above all, watch out for the bull, you can find it almost anywhere on the place."

The poor old saint, when he realized the next day what he had done, was petrified and hung his head in shame, especially when the young pastor came walking up the sidewalk of his home with the letter in his hand. Expecting the worst, he was shocked when the young man ran to the door and hugged him with words of thanks. He was amazed at how the old gentleman had known so well the struggles he was having and had given him, in such a creative way no less, just the encouragement he needed to hear and how he was inspired to love his people and be the best pastor he could.

When he left, the old man shook his head and said a prayer of thanks to the Lord above, amazed at the wonderful goodness of God and the even more amazing ways in which the Lord works in this world of ours!

Blessings to you in Christ,
Pastor Ken

Greetings to you on this Special Day

10/01	Lorrene Schiller	10/07	MASON DZIADEK	10/21	Ruth Paben
10/02	Gilbert Franke	10/07	Jodine Meyer	10/21	Ruby Emshoff
10/03	Rachel Villalovoz	10/07	Estelle Remmert	10/24	Bryant Schiller
10/04	Nathan Romano	10/08	Barbara Havemann	10/27	Kelly Kruzel
10/04	Joel Grigar	10/09	Ronnie Thrasher	10/29	Pastor Kenneth Bersche
10/04	Larry Schulke	10/12	Ursula Kutra	10/29	Timothy Ramon
10/05	Lee Hobratschk	10/14	Doris Schaffner		
10/05	MICAH KRUZEL	10/15	Beth Franke	10/31	Betty Remmert
10/05	CADE LANGTON	10/18	Maggie Kent	10/31	Patricia Gum
10/06	Grace Holtkamp	10/20	Adrian Horelica		
10/05	Jill Sullivan	10/21	Dianne Clover		



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

10/04/1997	Bryant & Melinda Schiller	10/16/1993	Mark & Patsy Romano
10/12/2013	Eric and Patricia Gum	10/20/2011	Brett & Brittany Carter
10/15/1976	Johnnie and Cynthia Sodolak		


Prayers for Nursing Home And Shut Ins

<p>*Eddie Svinky - (Hospice) Veranda House - 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>Charles Bolten 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>
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with God...
all things
are possible


Thank

You, dear people of Trinity Lutheran, for the wonderful appreciation dinner for Beth and me. Thanks to all who worked to put the dinner together, those who served it and provided delicious desserts, and to Mary Buechmann for the lovely "sailboat cake." Heart felt thanks to the congregation for the kind and generous monetary gift as well. It was rewarding to visit with you all and especially to see individuals with whom I had been particularly involved in one aspect of ministry or another. Thank you to Dale, the Elders, and the other leaders who let me work with you during this time. It was enjoyable to watch the slide show and see the past 2 1/5 years of my life flash before me!! This has been a fulfilling time and a meaningful way to top off my service to the Lord and His people, at least at this point. I am open to the Spirit's prompting for future opportunities! God's grace, mercy and peace to you all!"



"Thank you to the Trinity Lutheran Pre-School, teachers, staff and students, for the lovely wall plaque, to Maggie for the tremendous scrapbook, and to everyone for the well wishes and love expressed by all. God's continued blessing will flow through you to the community of Sealy. Thanks!!!" -- Gil and Beth Franke


The family of Geraldine Abel would like to thank the members of TLC for all the prayers and support over the past years. We especially appreciate Pastor Bersche for the visits and beautiful service. Thanks to all who brought and served food to family and friends at the luncheon after the service. All the cards, memorials, food, and everything else are deeply appreciated. May God continue to bless you! Charles, Debbie, Loyce, Patti and all family members

Thank You so much! **Thank** you to all the ladies who brought desserts to Pastor Franke's Appreciation Luncheon. You are greatly appreciated.



Changing Times for Sunday School and Church!! Beginning Sunday, October 4th Sunday School will begin at 9:00 am and Church will begin at 10:00 am. God blessings to this change!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will take place on Sunday, October 25, 2015 after the worship service. **Copies of the 2016 budget** are available in the narthex. Please pick up your copy for review and approval at the congregational meeting on October 25th.



MISSION SUNDAY MISSION SUNDAY Luncheon – Sign up in the narthex if you are planning to attend MISSION SUNDAY Stew Luncheon after church on October 11th. Ladies please bring desserts! Contact Norma Pavelka for any questions.



Portals of Prayer books October – December are ready. Please pick one up in the narthex or ask an Usher for help to locate one for you.



Circle of Friends Luncheon! When: Wednesday, October 7th - Sign Up To Attend!! Our next Circle of Friends Luncheon at Trinity is October 7th at 12:15 pm. Enjoy Lunch! Play Bingo! Play Dominoes Or Just Have Lunch with Us! Remember to invite your friends and neighbors. Please sign-up in the Narthex if you plan to attend. Come and Enjoy the Fellowship and Food!! If you have any questions please contact: Mary Buechmann-885-2730 Antoinette Romano-885-7932 Geraldine Barrett-885-3450.



THRIVENT CHOICE

Many members of Trinity’s congregation have supported the Thrivent Choice Program. As a result \$5,674.00 has been received beginning January, 2015 through August 31st. It is important that each member call Thrivent frequently, ask for choice dollars, to direct your dollars. Remember these dollars are there to give any organization desired and will remain there until you call and make your choice. Call Grace Holtkamp if you have any questions.



NEEDED! Anyone who loves their church and loves their Lord Jesus. We need folks to help on our evangelism committee. NO STRESS INVOLVED! Currently we need someone (preferably a team of people so you don't have to do it every Sunday) to browse through the attendance cards and find the visitors immediately following worship so that they can be visited that Sunday afternoon. We also need volunteers to help design a new brochure for the congregation. This brochure can be presented to guests when they are visited by the pastor. Yes, it would be great if someone could help pastor make brief "thank you" visits to those who worshipped with us that morning. If interested, please contact Ruth Szymanski at 979-885-3944 or Pastor Bersche at 979-398-0762. Thanks!



Sealy Christian Food Pantry The Sealy Christian Food Pantry would like your help in collecting food items for those less fortunate and those in need for the upcoming holidays. In addition to the regular family distribution of food items, we will be giving out and have given out in the past, a special Thanksgiving and Christmas package. These special packages include a turkey or ham and food for a family dinner. We are asking the local churches that support the pantry to contribute the special items (canned and dry goods). Each church is being asked to solicit for donations of ONE designated item. How easy is that? Each church will collect as many of that ONE item as possible during the collection period, which will be the month of October. Trinity Lutheran Church may help by donating **TURKEY GRAVY MIX**, any brand, to help the Pantry.

Blessings, Sealy Food Pantry



Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid met on September 3rd with seven members and Pastor Bersche present.

After the opening prayer was given the topic, “The Power of Prayer” was given.

Hostesses for October will be Rose Marie Trenckmann Antoinette Romano.

Loretta Dziadek and Dolores Cain observed their birthdays in September.

After the closing and table prayers were given, refreshments were served by hostesses, Vivian Kveton and Loretta Dziadek.

Our next meeting is October 1st and visitors are always welcome.



Preschool Open House will take place on Thursday, October 22nd 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend this event, including the congregation. You may bring grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends and family. This is a great time for everyone to come together and see some of the work the children have completed and for the families and friends to visit classrooms and teachers.

Angela from Books are Fun will also have her display set up with books for you to order or books that are pay and take.

When you arrive for the Open House, please go straight to your child's classroom and see the work he/she has completed. When you have visited the classrooms come and have some refreshments in the gym and browse and order some books. For every ten books sold, preschool receives one free book. Please bring the family and enjoy Open House.

Themes! Themes for the month of October are: Family, Fire Prevention, and the Five Senses. Bible stories are:

Week of Monday Oct. 4th

Abraham Follows God

Pastor Bersche's Children's Message

Week of Monday Oct. 11th

Abraham's Great Big Family

Pastor Bersche's Children's Message

Joseph and the Colorful Coat

Week of Monday Oct. 18th

Moses Hears the Call of God

Pastor Bersche's Children's Message

Moses Leads God's People

Week of Monday Oct. 25th

General Joshua and the Promise Land

Pastor Bersche's Children's Message

Ruth Must Find a New Home

The color for the month of October is BLUE, the shape is RECTANGLE and the children will continue to learn the letters i, m, f, s, and d.

Thank you to all the parents in helping reinforce the rules of the preschool. If your child comes home with a behavior report or the teacher lets you know about your child's day and inappropriate behavior, thank you for reinforcing and talking to your child about what happened at preschool. Please help him/her understand the circumstances of inappropriate and appropriate behavior.



Enjoying Pancakes & Fellowship!



Pancake Breakfast Thanks! Thank you, Johnny Busse, Pat and Mary Buechmann and Pastor Bersche arriving early to help me prepare the pancakes for the preschool pancake breakfast. Thank Mary Grunke, Geraldine Barrett and Mary Buechmann in helping clean and Pat Buechmann, Jerry Grunke and Bobby Barrett for putting up tables and chairs and sweeping the entire gym floor. Thanks to everyone who came and supported the preschool! You are greatly appreciated!

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.

What this entails is for your child 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 October are:

October 5th – October 9th

Kaden Glueck & Kolton Carr

October 12th – October 16th

Kallie Haidusek & Maddison Green

October 19th – October 23rd

Jake Haisler & Presley Harkness

October 27th – October 31st

Kyler Hendry & Riley Hewson

Please bring your pictures Friday before your child is Family of the Week!



Wear Blue Day! Since we are learning the color BLUE for the month, we would like the children to wear something BLUE to preschool on Friday October 16th. Children can wear blue clothes, socks, shoes, hair bows, neckties or whatever you can think of to reinforce the color BLUE!



Western Day! On Wednesday October 7th, the children may dress in western clothes for Western Day to promote The Austin County Fair. Each child may dress in western jeans, boots, shirts, belts, hats and also a bandana. If your child decides to wear spurs, this is fine, except if they are hurting another child, then the spurs will be removed. So let's get out our cowboy hats and boots!



Gun Safety! On Wednesday, October 14th, Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will come to the preschool to talk to the children about Gun Safety.

Mr. Gary, as the children call him, knows that a lot of children go hunting with their dads and grandpas and would like to keep the little ones safe. Mr. Gary will also explain to the children the importance of what to do if you find a gun, for example, at a friend's house. What do you do with a gun? Mr. Gary will also talk about how to use play guns and not to point the guns at others. Let's see what the children can learn during Gun Safety!



Fire Prevention! The Sealy Fire Department will come to the preschool on Friday October 23rd at 10:00 am. They will teach the children to stop, drop and roll in case of a fire.

Children will enjoy the morning with the Sealy Fire Department as they learn about Fire Safety, since October is Fire Prevention Month. One of the important things that the firemen will teach the children is not to be afraid of them or hide from them in case they are in the house while burning. Firemen are there to help and rescue them even though their equipment may be scary. The firemen will also teach the children how important an escape route is for the entire family and the importance of smoke detectors. Please try to have your child here for this important lesson.

Yes And Ears!

Vision Hearing Screening! Vision and Hearing Screening will take place on Tuesday, October 6th beginning at 8:30 am.

This is mandatory by the state for the four year old classes. You have an option of taking your child for a diagnostic examination (such as eye doctor or hearing specialist) instead of signing up for the screening that the preschool provides. But check the cost to avoid surprises!

If you decide to take you child to be screened, then you must provide the preschool office with a copy of both the acuity and audiometric data signed by the doctor for our files and for the state. The words "OKAY" or "NORMAL" beside the word eyes or ears from regular physicians DO NOT meet the state's record requirements.

The cost for the screening is \$14.00 for vision and hearing. Rhonda Lazenby, professional from College Station, will come to the preschool to screen the four year old classes. She is a state certified screener.

Please make checks payable to Rhonda Lazenby. If you decide to do the screening yourself, please have your documentation in my office by Friday, October 2nd. Vision and Hearing Screening is mandatory by the state. If you decide not to have this screening, then your child may not participate in the preschool program.

Please bring in the documentation or make a check out to Rhonda Lazenby for \$14.00 or cash (exact change) by Friday, October 2nd along with the permission form. Do not turn in the form without the money or the money without the form.



Harvest Party! The preschool Harvest Party for the entire preschool will be Wednesday October 28th, 9:30 am-10:30 am. All room mothers need to be here right after dropping off their children to help set up.

We would like the children to come dressed as one of Noah Ark's animals. We have in the past had great and unique costumes, such as ladybugs, puppy dogs, sheep, kitty cats, cows and lots more. There are so many simple ways to dress your child as animals without spending a lot of money.

There will be a sign up volunteer list for refreshments and games. We need parents to help in supervising the children with games that the preschool provides. I will need help in setting up, tearing down, wiping tables and chairs, sweep and clean the kitchen after the party. So if you can help

in games or refreshments please place your name on the volunteer list. We need participation and not spectators!



Snacks! The preschool would like to say a "Big Thank You" to all the parents that donated snacks to the preschool. Snacks are not required to be brought by the parents but are helpful. If you go shopping and you find a good deal, pick one up for the preschool. You do not have to buy for the entire preschool. If you go shopping here are some ideas: cheese nips, honey combs, round crackers, pretzels, fruit loops, microwave popcorn, nacho cheese, goldfish and slice cheese. We appreciate it all!



Thanksgiving Dinner Fundraiser! We are getting ready for our 17th Annual Preschool-Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday November 12th, beginning at 5:30 pm and ending at 7:00 pm. The cost of the ticket is \$10.00 for one size plate. This is a major fundraiser for the preschool, which helps with the cost for teacher training, playground upkeep, classroom toys and learning materials, supplies, repairs, carpet cleaning, and helps keep the preschool afloat.

Look for a special letter informing you of all the details of the Preschool – Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner. Preschool needs help with all the donations and help with the dinner. Take a look at the glass window for all the donations needed to make this fundraiser a success! This will be posted on Monday October 19th. Thanksgiving Dinner tickets will be on sale Monday, October 26th.



Late Pick Up!! Please be on time to pick your child up from preschool. Beginning October 1st the \$1.00 per minute will be added to your tuition. Please be on time!



Reminder! No Preschool Thursday October 8th and Friday October 9th due to the Austin County Fair!

In Christ, Ms. Maggie



MINUTES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING September 16, 2015



**Changing Times for Sunday School and Church!!
Beginning Sunday, October 4th Sunday School will
begin at 9:00 am and Church at 10:00 am.**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President Dale Toellner and opened with prayer. Carol Jean Hauschild presented the devotion from "Mornings" with Jesus based on Psalm 19:1-4 and Romans 8:18.

Council Members Present: Pastor Bersche,
Dale Toellner – President
Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer
Fred Paben - Trustee Chair
Ruth Szymanski – Evangelism
Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair
Valerie Engelbrecht - Education Chair
Patricia Gum - Youth Chair
Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair
Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair
Johanna Buechmann - Secretary
Council Members Absent: George Wied - Vice President

Minutes from the August 11, 2015 meeting were presented for review and approval. Carol Jean Hauschild made motion to accept minutes. Patricia Gum seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Unfinished/Old Business:

*2016 Proposed Budget passed out for review. Discussion on changes to budget for Board of Youth. Fred Paben made motion to accept 2016 Proposed Budget as presented with the changes in the line items for the Board of Youth as approved by Council. Lee Hobratschk seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried. Budget will be presented to congregation in next couple of weeks.

*2016 slate of officer nominees update: Positions for election are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Elder Chair, Board of Education Chair, Stewardship Chair and 3 Elders with each position filled.

*Service Time Change: Ruth will advertise in paper and on new sign.

Chair Reports:

Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer

*The August 31, 2015 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$99,378.97, Building Fund is \$52,188.25, Designated Funds is \$66,447.20 and Total - All Funds is \$218,014.42. The General Fund Contributions is \$18,766.00. Total management and general expenses is \$23,466.37. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is (\$4,700.37). General Fund Expenditures is \$23,466.37. *Total made from BBQ is \$16,216.93. Discussion on where BBQ funds will be allocated was tabled to October meeting.

*Ben's Chuck Wagon was paid out of Fellowship Fund.

Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair

*No further report presented.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

*Mission Sunday will be October 11th with a Camp Lone Star presentation. Next year there will be a different Mission Sunday speaker.

*Elders renewed church copyright license for music and did not renew Lutheran Service Builder organist copyright.

*Pastor Franke presented with a \$1,000 check for retirement gift.

*Monday, November 9th will be a combined Elder and Church Council meeting at 7 pm.

George Wied - Vice President (absent)

*No report presented.

Pastor Bersche

*Pastor performed 2 private baptisms for Timothy and Avery Ramon.

*Confirmation will be for 5th and 6th graders.

*Evangelism group will be more active with projects.

*Changes coming on blue attendance cards.

Valerie Engelbrecht - Education

*Rally Day held in Youth Room with a good attendance of about 21 kids.

*Board is looking into Sunday School teachers.

Patricia Gum - Youth

*Youth Board members will be Kellie Kainer, Katy Grigar, Melinda Schiller and Sherry Dziadek as a volunteer.

*LCMS Youth Gathering - working on getting information out to youth. Registration fee is \$325 per person for ages 14-19 and needs to be mailed October 21st. Youth will start on fund raising.

*Discussion about youth budget and check request.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*Volunteers are needed for Evangelism board.

*Facebook page has really been good.

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair

*Pastor Franke's luncheon went well with a good turn out.

*Mission Sunday meal on October 11th after service. Stew and corn bread will be served.

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*AED on order with a cost of \$1,295.00 plus shipping.

*Hwy 36 sign still working on and waiting on panel.

*Johnny Busse worked on air conditioners.

Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair

*Everything good. Casey Picard is a new usher.

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:

*November 9th will be an Elders and Church Council combined meeting to create a wish list for the church.

There being no further business, President Toellner called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Patricia Gum to adjourn meeting. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Ruth Szymanski will do devotion for October meeting.

Next meeting will be on Monday, October 12, 2015.

Dale Toellner led all in the Lord's Prayer.

*Dale Toellner, President
Johanna Buechmann – Secretary*