

Building His Body By Reflecting the Son

FEBRUARY

Join us for Our Holy Midweek and Holy Week Worship Services

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

Pastor:
Kenneth Bersche
Pastorken@tlcsealy.org
979-398-0762
Maggie Kent, Office
Secretary

ELDERS:

Bobby Barrett, 885-3450 Lowell Coody, 877-4907 Joel Grigar, 885-1415 Lee Hobratschk, 832-419-2998 Doyle Kornegay, 512-694-8057 Tracy Schiller, 865-2748 Johnnie Sodolak 885-3873 Stephen Stuessel 885-9496 Barry Wolf, 877-0341

TRINITY TIDBITS

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

Self-Denial Not Only During Lent

"What are you giving up for Lent this year?" That is one of the most common questions asked among Christians during Lent. And, yes, giving up something for Lent can be good outward training. Although, too often we focus our attention on what we are doing instead of what Lent is truly all about. Instead, we should focus our attention on Jesus, the one who suffered pain and agony in death for us.

A missionary went on vacation and came back to the states. While he was visiting a church on vacation during Lent, he made an impassioned plea for support of the mission work for the church at large. At the end of the meeting some of the women present at the meeting asked him what they might do to be of assistance to him and other missionaries. He suggested that since it was Lent they might practice some self-denial. Maybe they should do without a new spring outfit or some other want and give the money to missions. After a long and serious debate among the women, they decided to "go ahead and buy their new outfits" but also give an equal amount to missions.

That sounds familiar because such is life in the church today. Most of us sacrifice comfortably. It has been said many times, and maybe you have said or at least thought it: "We should give until it hurts." A better way to say and think is: "We should give until it helps."

Controlling our motives when we practice self-denial is no easy matter. Most of the time we discover ourselves seeking to follow out the practice in a manner best designed to give us some benefit. Even when we give something up for Lent we tend to do it with some pride and arrogance without even realizing it. Just how unselfish is our self-giving and sacrifice. Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Maybe instead of giving something up for Lent, we should give something until it helps.

In Christ,

Pastor Ken

The Youth Of Trinity Lutheran Church
Will Be Honored to Serve Members 70 and Older
And Their Spouses
A Valentine Over 70's Dinner
Lasagna/Green Beans/Salad/Garlic Bread
Tea and Coffee
Sunday, February 14, 2015
After the Worship Service
Please RSVP to Church Office by Feb. 7th.

Greetings to you on this Special Day

| 2/01 | Amber Jacobson | 2/11 | Darrell Palm | 2/25 | Mildred Pless |
|------|------------------|------|----------------|--------|-----------------|
| 2/08 | Sabrina Schiller | 2/14 | Dorthy Gerhart | Charle | s Abel |
| 2/08 | Troy Tesch | | | 2/28 | CHARLIE ARRIAGA |
| 2/09 | Courtney Dziadek | 2/24 | Diane Henry | 2/28 | Joyce Amthor |
| 2/11 | Gage Grigar | | · | | , |
| | | | | | |



Happy Anniversary

2/24/2007



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

2/01/1946 Edwin & Estelle Remmert ♥
2/14/1989 Bill and Ann Reay

Cy and Ashley Voitek

Prayers for Nursing Home And Shut Ins

*Eddie Svinky – (Hospice) Veranda House – Sealy

Ethel Donnelly
Colonial Belle Sealy

<u>Charles Bolten</u> Colonial Belle – Sealy

Joyce Meyer Colonial Belle – Sealy *Clara Gerstenberger
Kruse Village Long Term Care
1700 East Stone Room 213
Strawberry Lane
Brenham, TX 77833

*Bernice Hintz P. O. Box 1651 Brenham, TX 77833 979-289-2568

*Lavonn Schier Caretakers: John and Shirley Schier 4726 Oxbow Circle East Fulshear, TX 77441-4448 281-346-0452

Sympathy Sympathy for the family of Alice Burttschell who went to be with her Lord on January 2, 2016. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Sympathy for the family of Glenwood (Dinky) Kveton who went to be with his Lord on Saturday, January 16, 2016. Please keep his wife Vivian and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Choice Dollars - The total amount of choice dollars directed from Thrivent Financial to Trinity Lutheran Church in 2015 was \$9,370.00. Remember to direct your choice dollars before March 31st. After this date all funds not designated will be carried over to the Thrivent General Fund. Call Grace Holtkamp for additional information.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Many Trinity Members of Thrivent Choice Dollars have directed those dollars to several institutions. Remember to continue doing this every two or three months by calling 1-800-847-4836. After March 31, 2016, any funds not directed will be moved into the Thrivent General Fund. Contact Grace Holtkamp for information.

Sanctuary LED Lights Replacement of sanctuary lights is \$2500.00. If you would like to donate towards the LED lights please mark this on your contribution. Thank you!

Join us for our Midweek Lent and Holy Week Worship

- ✓ **February 10** 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Altar Guild 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service Our Father who art in heaven,
 - ✓ **February 17** 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Church Council

7:00 pm 2nd Wednesday Worship Service - Hallowed be Thy name.

- ✓ **February 24** 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Preschool 7:00 pm 3rd Wednesday Worship Service Thy kingdom come,
- ✓ March 2 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Youth
 7:00 pm 4th Wednesday Worship Service Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
- ✓ March 9 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Choir 7:00 pm 5th Wednesday Worship Service - Give us this day our daily bread;
 - ✓ March 16 6:00 pm Soup Supper by Ladies Aid 7:00 pm 6th Wed. Worship Service And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 - ✓ March 24 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday And lead us not into temptation,
 - ✓ March 25 7:00 pm Good Friday But deliver us from evil.
- √ 7:00 am March 27 Easter Sunrise

 For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.
 - √ 8:00 am Easter Pancake Breakfast
 - √ 9:00 am Congregational Bible Class
 - √ 10:00 am Easter Worship Service/Communion

2



Sealy Christian Pantry Pancake Dinner and Concert/Sing-a-Long is

Tuesday, February 9, 2016 beginning at 5:30 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Center. This will benefit the Sealy Christian Pantry and their ministry of feeding the hungry. A free-will offering will be received-no charge.



Circle of Friends Luncheon!

Wednesday, February 3rd! Time: 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 on the sheet in the Narthex if you plan to attend or would like to make a dessert. If you have any questions please contact: Mary Buechmann-885-2730 Antoinette Romano-885-7932 Geraldine Barrett-885-3450.



Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid met on January 7th with eight members and Pastor Ken Bersche present.

After the opening prayer was given Betty Herridge gave the topic from Portals of Prayers.

Plans were discussed about hosting the January 9th birthday party at Colonial Belle Nursing Home.

Hostesses for the February meeting will be Betty Herridge and Ruth Paben.

After the closing prayer by Pastor Ken, refreshments brought by members were served by hostesses Antoinette Romano and Loretta Dziadek.

Our next meeting will be on February 4th. Visitors are always welcome.

Loretta Dziadek

Easter Crosses - The Youth will be selling Easter Crosses after church in the narthex beginning on Sunday February 7th 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!!!!



Singing in Church! We all know the wonderful feeling of watching our child/children perform for us. On Sunday, February 28th please make plans for all the preschoolers to join us for the 10:00 am worship service. The children will be in front of the church and sing some of the wonderful songs they learned in chapel.

Each year the congregation looks forward hearing the preschool sing praise and be part of the worship service. Pastor Ken Bersche and the Fellowship Committee would like for everyone to stay for a pot luck meal after church. 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 9:30 am and drop off your children 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 28th on your calendar to sing. Your child is little only once so don't let you and your child miss out on this program. Please stay for the luncheon and enjoy fellowship among your friends.

Bobbie Novicke from 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 4th at 11:30 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. 1st - Feb 5th

One Touch

"Take a Rest" (PS Devotional Book)

A Big Picnic Walking on Water

Feb. 8th - Feb 12th

Open House

"Good Books" (PS Devotional Book)

Money in a Fish

Feb. 15th - Feb. 19th

A Good Neighbor

"Smart Animals" (PS Devotional Book)

Listening

Feb. 22nd - Feb 26th

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 Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him improve and protect his possessions and income.

Along with the Seventh Commandment the children will also learn The Eighth Commandment: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way. 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 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 8th- February 12th
Gage Quinton & Hailey Ramos
February 15th - February 19th
Grayson Roberts & Noah Rosas
February 22nd - February 26th
Isabel Ruiz & Hunter Sellers
February 29th - March 4th
Lainey and Sydnee Siska
Jace Stuchly

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 19th, 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 26th. 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 5th, so the valentine cards can be mailed out in ample time for you to receive them.

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.

<u>Valentine's Party!</u> The preschool will have their Valentine Party on Wednesday, February 10th, 9:30 am − 10:30 am.

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 Tuesday, March 1st and end on Thursday, March 31st for the families that are enrolled in the program now! This is giving you first chance to enroll your child for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration packets will be ready for you to pick up on Tuesday, March 1st in the preschool office.

After Thursday, March 31st, the enrollment is open to the waiting list and the public. So if you are planning to have 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 2016-2017 school year is \$80.00. For early registration and for the month of March for the ones in the program now there will be 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 24th 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. But 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. And 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!

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 all 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!

Nontal Reminder that preschool is closed Monday, February 15th for President's Day and public school closed.

Meeting

Minutes

In Christ, Ms. Maggie

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

Vice President George Wied called the meeting to order. President Dale Toellner was not present. Pastor Bersche said the prayer.

The Ballot was presented to the congregation. Vice President Wied read the names on the ballot. Bill Blume made motion to accept nominations as presented by acclamation. Rebecca Tipton seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

The 2016 Proposed Budget for Trinity Lutheran Church was presented. Charles Abel made motion to accept budget as presented. Fred Paben seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

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

Pastor Bersche closed in prayer.

George Wied, Vice President
Johanna Buechmann, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ON DECEMBER 13, 2015

Church **\Council**

President Dale Toellner called the meeting to order regarding web site issues with the URL hacked and plans to rebuild site.

Council Members Present: Pastor Bersche,
Dale Toellner – President
George Wied - Vice President
Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer
Fred Paben - Trustee Chair
Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair
Ruth Szymanski – Evangelism
Marlene Leiber - Stewardship Chair
Valerie Engelbrecht - Education Chair
Patricia Gum - Youth Chair
Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair
Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair
Johanna Buechmann - Secretary

Elders Present: Doyle Kornegay, Barry Wolf

Visitors Present: Pastor Franke, Ron Hartmann, Pam Epperly, Ruth Paben

Pastor Franke presented problems, costs and recommendations. Ron Hartmann spoke about web site problems and helping Pastor Franke.

President Toellner recommended forming a committee. Motion made by Ruth Szymanski to form IT committee and report back recommendations and costs to bring web site control back in house. George Wied seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried. Ron Hartmann was appointed chair of the committee.

Motion made by George Wied to subscribe to Sucuri.net basic plan (\$16.66/monthly, billed yearly for \$199.99/year), to have our present site cleaned and protected, then keep Word Press and plug-ins updated and password robust. Marlene Leiber seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Refer to Email and Report to Special Called Council meeting from Pastor Franke.

Meeting adjourned.

Dale Toellner, President Johanna Buechmann, Secretary For God so loVed the world
thAt he gave his
onLy
begottEn
SoN,
thaT whoever
belIeves
iN him should not perish
but havE everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)

On Valentine's Day, we remember that God is the source of all love in the world. His perfect love for us has made all human love possible.

Church



The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President Dale Toellner and opened with prayer. Norma Pavelka presented the devotion on Being a Living Stone from 1 Corinthians 14:12.

Council Members Present: Pastor Bersche,
Dale Toellner - President, Carol Jean Hauschild
- Treasurer, Fred Paben - Trustee Chair, Lee
Hobratschk - Elder Chair, Ruth Szymanski Evangelism, Jerry Leiber - Stewardship Chair,
Valerie Engelbrecht - Education Chair, Patricia
Gum - Youth Chair, Norma Pavelka Fellowship Chair, Johanna Buechmann Secretary

Council Members Absent: George Wied - Vice President, Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair

Minutes from the October 12, 2015 and November 9, 2015 meetings were presented for review and approval. Carol Jean Hauschild made motion to accept minutes. Patricia Gum seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried. There was no regular council meeting in December 2015.

Unfinished/Old Business:

*Church web site is working now. The IT Committee will be meeting to make further decisions.

*Brainstorming ideas are still being worked on.

Chair Reports:

Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer *The November 30, 2015 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$109,780.64, Building Fund is \$58,775.76, Designated Funds is \$51,698.58 and Total - All Funds is \$220,254.98. The General Fund Contributions is \$21,329.23. Total management and general expenses is \$20,391.85. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$937.38. General Fund Expenditures is \$20,391.85. *The December 31, 2015 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$112,322.10, Building Fund is \$59,172.38, Designated Funds is \$56,535.58 and Total - All Funds is \$228,030.06. The General Fund Contributions is \$23,343.00. Total management and general expenses is \$20,801.54. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$2,541.46. General Fund Expenditures is \$20,801.54. *Mileage is 54 cents now.

*Pastor Bersche completed Housing Allowance expense form for ministers that own their own home for the IRS (non-taxable). Motion made by Fred Paben to authorize Pastor Ken Bersche's allocation of \$28,030.76 for Housing Allowance for 2016. Jerry Leiber seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried. Jerry Leiber - Stewardship Chair *Contribution envelopes left for 2016 - Jerry will work with Elders to distribute these envelopes.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair *Elders are working on delinquent members again.

*Discussion on Organist salary for choir practice. Council decided to leave as is.

George Wied - Vice President (absent) *No report presented.

Pastor Bersche

*Pastor requested to please let Maggie or him know of any shut ins.

*Confirmation is going well.

Valerie Engelbrecht- Education

*Youth Service is January 31st.

*Sunday School is going on.

Patricia Gum - Youth

*Discussion on youth being lay readers in church. Lee advised the Elders did not discuss this at their meeting.

*Fundraising will get busy for the National LCMS Youth Gathering with 15 youth and 4 adult chaperones.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair *Evangelism met and visits are working good.

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair *New Member Potluck Fellowship luncheon on January 17th for 20 to 25 new members. *Lenten Soup Suppers are planned.

*Preschool Potluck Fellowship luncheon on February 28th.

*Easter Pancake Breakfast will be March 27th.

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*Janitor requested \$50 more to clean which was worked into Trustee's budget.

*The correct size letters were ordered for the Hwy 36 sign.

*The LED bulbs are being installed in the church.

Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair (absent) *No report presented.

President Toellner called for a motion to approve the Chair Reports. Motion was made by Lee Hobratschk to accept the Chair Reports as presented. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried. New Business:

*Allocation of monies from Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services (total is \$4,130) - Motion made by Fred Paben to allocate \$1,000 to Youth with balance to LED Lighting Fund for LED lights. Jerry Leiber seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

*Discussion on LCMS responds to Boy Scouts' decision handout.

*Discussion on Open Carry Law as of January 1st, 2016 and signage.

*Health Plan for Pastor Bersche and family -Motion made by Ruth Szymanski for Trinity Lutheran Church to pay for Pastor Ken Bersche and family for their health insurance from Concordia Health Plan. Carol Jean Hauschild seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

*Council approved for the use of the Fellowship Center for the Mildred Pless 90th Family Birthday Celebration on February 21st from 2-4:30 pm for small group.

*When turning in bills, the line item needs to be put on the bill.

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

Carol Jean Hauschild will do devotion for February meeting.

Next meeting will be on Monday, February 8, 2016. Dale Toellner led all in the Lord's Prayer.

> Dale Toellner, President Johanna Buechmann – Secretary

Our Servant-King

Jesus began his ministry by being hungry, yet he is the Bread of Life.

Jesus ended his earthly ministry by being thirsty, yet he is the Living Water.

> Jesus was weary, yet he is our rest.

Jesus paid tribute, yet he is the King.

Jesus was accused of having a demon, yet he cast out demons.

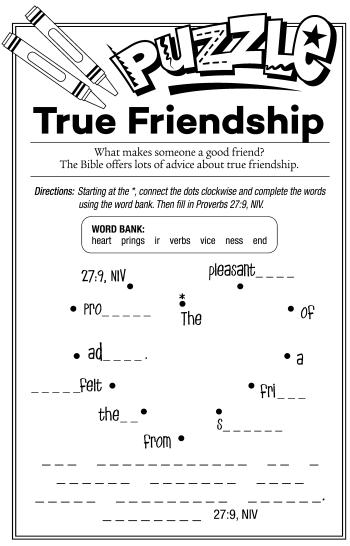
> Jesus wept, yet he wipes away our tears.

Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver, yet he redeemed the world.

Jesus was brought as a lamb to the slaughter, yet he is the Good Shepherd.

Jesus died. yet by his death he destroyed the power of death.

-Gregory of Nazianzus (fourth-century church father)



Proverbs 27:9, NIV

Answer: The pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice.

Loves me not?

A girl asked a boy if he loved her, and he replied, "Yes, of course."

"Would you die for me?" the girl wondered.

After a brief pause, the honest lad said, "No, mine is an undying love."

