

**Building His Body  
By  
Reflecting the Son**

**MAY 2016**



**Ladies Aid Bake Sale  
Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at  
Citizens State Bank!**

**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](http://www.tlcsealy.org)**

**Pastor:  
Kenneth Bersche  
[Pastorken@tlcsealy.org](mailto: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**



Remember -  
our fallen heros.  
They are the reason  
that we are free.

# **TRINITY TIDBITS**

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



## **Good Intentions- Do they match our gifts?**

When Dr. Billy Graham and his wife, Ruth, were first married, they were like most young couples, a little short on money.

One Sunday as they sat together in worship, the offering plate was passed and Billy grabbed a bill from his wallet. He thought it was a dollar as he dropped it in the offering plate. Yet when he saw the bill in the plate, he noticed that he had by mistake placed in a ten-dollar bill. What was he to do? He was too embarrassed to retrieve it, so he sat there, chagrined by his mistake.

Afterwards, when he and Ruth talked about it, she kidded him by saying, "And in the eyes of the Lord you'll not get credit for ten dollars, since one dollar was all you planned to give."

Most of us have had similar experiences. But surely does God keep books on us, checking to see if our intentions match our gifts? Surely God is more concerned about the condition of our hearts and the status of our spirits than about how much we give.

God certainly does know that when our hearts are in tune with Him, our appropriate gifts will follow. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." *Luke 12:34* The reverse is also true: Where your heart is, there will your treasure be also.

All of us at some time or another have had good intentions but did not follow through on them. The month of May is upon us. It is the start of a busy summer schedule: softball, baseball, fishing, boating, camping, etc. Vacation begins! Our intentions to serve God with our time, talent, and treasure sometimes can be altered with our hectic schedules. Our intentions should still be to support the church with our giving but as we fly down the road, or sit at the ball park, our intended gifts are many times forgotten.

We are truly blessed by our loving God who put us first! Let us not forget to put Him first in our lives even though vacation time is upon us, Let us always have good intentions and follow through on them of our giving of time, talent, and treasure. While we continue going through the summer months, please remember God's commitment to us in Jesus and also our response to Him.

Blessings to you all this summer,

Pastor Ken



# Birthdays for the Month!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

## Greetings to you on this Special Day

5/01 James Sneed	5/14 Matthew Kieke	5/23 Melvin Schmidt
5/05 Karen Naida	5/14 Cynthia Sodolak	5/24 Susie Toellner
5/09 George Baade	5/14 Sterling Schiller	5/25 Casey Picard
5/09 Robin Jacobson	5/15 Bonnie Reay	5/27 Viola Sebesta
5/09 Meagan Murrell	5/17 Geraldine Stuessel	5/29 Neil Johnston
5/10 David Hauschild	5/18 Scott Stuessel	5/29 Brody Schiller
5/10 Barbara Vohs	5/19 Don Henry	5/30 Brittney Steinhauser
5/11 CALEB KRUZEL	Elgien Konesheck	5/31 Lindsey Dziadek
5/11 Brittany Foerster	5/22 Erik Julian	

## Happy Anniversary



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

5/02/1992 Dean and Robin Jacobson	5/21/1961 Jerry and Dolores Cain
5/10/1969 Bill and Linda Blume	5/24/1980 Robert and Donna Emshoff
5/12/1979 Robert and Barbara Vohs	



**Sympathy** to the family of Douglas Fernandes who went to be with his Lord. He was on our prayer list with a malignant brain tumor, and is a family friend to Marge Michaelis)



**Sympathy** for the family of Sybil Parker died Monday, April 18, 2016. She is the mother to Susie Toellner. Please keep the family in your prayers.



## Prayers for Nursing Home And Shut Ins

<b>Ethel Donnelly</b> Colonial Belle Sealy	<b>*Bernice Hintz</b> Kruze Village: Rehab for broken leg P. O. Box 1651 Brenham, TX 77833 979-289-2568
<b>Charles Bolten</b> Colonial Belle - Sealy	<b>*Lavonn Schier</b> Grace Care Caretakers: John and Shirley Schier 4726 Oxbow Circle East Fulshear, TX 77441-4448 281-346-0452
<b>Joyce Meyer</b> Colonial Belle - Sealy	

hours. Please sign up in the Narthex if you would like to help out!



**Preschool Graduation** will honor preschool graduates Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Preschool graduates will wear their cap and gown and the worship service will focus around the graduates. Please stay and join us for the graduation cake from Mary Buechmann and punch after the worship service.



## High School and College Graduation and POT LUCK!



will take place on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>. let the church office know if you are graduating college. Please join us for the Pot Luck Meal after the worship service. Please bring a dish: meat, vegetable, casserole or dessert. Please contact Norma Pavelka for more information.



## News Bits



**Bake Sale** – Trinity Lutheran Church Ladies Aid is having a bake sale Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:00 am at Citizens State Bank. We need support from everyone to help bake items for the sale. Won't you join the ladies by baking or supporting this project? If you plan on helping by baking please bring your baked items to Citizens State Bank by 8:00 am on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> "the day of the sale." You may also bring in your items to the church the day before during office



## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS LUNCHEON!

Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>! 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-281-217-7177 Geraldine Barrett-885-3450.

## Youth News

I would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to the Youth garage sale. We had lots of items donated, as well as some monetary donations. In total, the Youth profited \$1,827 from the garage sale. This could not have been possible without the help and donations of all the congregation members, friends, family and the community. We had 13 Youth and 12 Parents attend the garage sale to help set everything up and make sure everything ran smoothly. I would like to send a special huge thank you to all of the Youth/parents who were able to help with this. I know 5:30 am was not fun for any of us, but it sure did pay off in the end. The Youth will have a car wash on Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am – Noon in the back church parking lot along Hwy 36. Please pass the word along.



## Ladies Aid News

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid met on April 7, 2016 with seven members present.

Betty Herridge gave the topic from Portals of Prayers.

Plans were discussed about the May bake sale.

Antoinette Romano observed her birthday on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

After the table and closing prayers were given, refreshments brought by members were served.

Our next meeting will be on May fifth and visitors are always welcomed.

**Ruth Paben**



Everyone is invited to the four-year-old class graduation that will take place on Sunday, May 22, 2016 during the 10:00 am worship service. The children will wear the preschool's cap and gown that must be returned. The children will be able to keep their tassels as a gift. A gift bag with keepsakes will also be given to each pre-kindergarten child to take home.

We would like the parents of the children to be prompt bringing their child/children to their classrooms at 9:30 am. This will give us ample time to put the caps and gowns on the children and for the parents to take pictures.

Most important, we would like all the parents out of the classrooms by 9:45 am so we can calm the excited children and be ready for the ceremony.

After the worship service the parents and congregation are invited to have cake and punch in the gym. This is also a good time for the parents to take pictures of the graduating children with friends, families and teachers for keepsakes.

I would like to say a Big Thank You to the preschool parents, congregation, preschool board members and the teachers for their support and dedication throughout the year, and a special thank you to Mary Buechmann for supplying the graduation cake for all of us to enjoy.

Please come and take part in these children's lives and watch them graduate and move forward as they continue to learn and know that Jesus loves them. Remember to be here by 9:30 am on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> for GRADUATION!

***I pray for each child whether going to kindergarten or just going into the next class. I pray that we have given each child the right teaching tools to look to God in their times of need. I pray as you grow throughout the years not to let things get in the way of learning, praying and most of all loving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I ask this in your precious name. Amen.***





**Sunglasses Day!** On Friday, May 6th, the children may come to preschool wearing sunglasses! Please label your child's sunglasses with their names. Hopefully we will have a beautiful sunny day to enjoy God's world through our sunglasses.



**Water Safety with Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt!** When the weather turns warm, everyone wants to be in or around the water. Hanging out at the pool or the beach on a hot day is a great way to beat the heat.

Between having fun and checking out the lifeguards, most people don't think much about water safety — but they should. For people between the ages of 5 and 24, drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death.

Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will be at the preschool on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Mr. Gary will talk to the children about water safety tips.

Splashing, wading, and paddling — it must mean a great day in the water. Playing at the beach, at a water park, by a lake, or in a pool can be a real treat on a hot day. Swimming is a lot of fun, but Mr. Gary will tell us how to stay safe in the water.



**Wear Purple Day!** On Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> the children may wear the color PURPLE to reinforce the color of the month.



**Ice Cream Wednesdays!** July is National Ice Cream Month in the USA and the 3rd Sunday in July is National Ice Cream Day.

Preschool will celebrate ice cream day each Wednesday for the month of May since we are not in school in the month of July. It is hard to imagine greater fun than enjoying the taste of ice cream.

In the USA more ice cream is consumed per head than any other country in the world – such is the love of ice cream among Americans. This is reflected in other ways too, not least by the fact that the USA has its own 'National Ice Cream Month'. Since 1984, when President Reagan proclaimed that National Ice Cream Month be celebrated annually, every July has been a focus for greater attention to ice cream in the United States with the 3rd Sunday of that month each year being National Ice Cream Day.

**Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> Popsicles!**

**Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Cones**

**Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> Push Ups**

**Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Sandwiches**

With ice cream loved by so many people around the world, the preschoolers will enjoy ice cream every Wednesday this month and hopefully in July, the real month to celebrate ICE CREAM DAY!



**Back Yard Picnic!** We will have a blast outside by having a Back Yard Picnic. We know how much the children enjoy playing outside and bringing their lunch. All the children need to bring a sack lunch along with a

drink on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> to enjoy the day outside with our Back Yard Picnic! Whether we have rain or not we will enjoy the day!



**Rainbow Day!** The preschool will have a Rainbow Day on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. We would like all the children to wear as many colors as they can to reinforce the colors learned throughout the year!



**Potty Training!** I want to remind the parents of the two-year-old class that all who are going into the three-year-old class this fall must be 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!

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.

Potty training is possible if the teacher and parents work together. I appreciate all the parents supporting the teacher for potty training the children.

If your child has been sent home with a change of clothes from Trinity, please return it by the end of this school year.



**A Special Thank You!** To all the parents and congregational members. I want to say thank you for supporting the preschool this year.

I know a lot of changes have taken place this year with preschool teachers leaving but it is amazing who is in control, and that is God.

Parents, you are the ones the children rely on for strength and reassurance. All of us, the preschool staff greatly rely on you and thank you for your support of being our backbones throughout this time when children have to say goodbye to people who have been close to them, feeling sad and to some degree, a little insecure.

God placed you as parents in Trinity's path to build our entire staff to be a great leadership team to help the children adjust to a teacher leaving and another teacher coming.

Trinity staff and you as parents, set the familiar settings where the children feel comfortable and safe. Trinity preschool teachers kept the regular routine and daily lesson schedule, to provide stability. It is important that the place, routine, and rituals remain as consistent as possible. Your child feeling comfortable with all the changes are because of you and the preschool teachers.

Parents, I appreciate all the donations of snacks, volunteering and prayers given to the preschool. Thank you for sending your child to learn about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and most of all, the appreciation of loving the preschool. Your heart shows the love by your participation! From the bottom of my heart and the teachers, THANK YOU!

I would like to say thank you to my Preschool Board Members for all the support for the preschool, taking time out for monthly

meetings, all the prayers, and most of all giving your heart in the support of the preschool and the teachers.

Preschool staff has done an excellent job this year in loving all the children and teaching them about Jesus. God has placed this special staff of Trinity, who give their all in everything they do here at preschool. I appreciate each and every one for all the hard work this year.

You are always welcome to come by and visit the preschool, visit church if you are looking for a church home or join us for VBS during the summers. You are always welcome!



**Teacher Appreciation!** Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2<sup>nd</sup>– May 6<sup>th</sup>. Preschool teachers have a special gift and talent in teaching and loving our children.

Thanks to all who make these teachers feel important, blessed and loved. Make this a great week for these special teachers who touch the heart of all of us. Thanks for being there for all of us all year long. All of you are special parents with a caring heart. You are greatly appreciated!



**End of School Party!** Preschool will have their end of school hot dog party on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am-10:30 am. Please look for the sign-up list to help with games and refreshments!



**Computer Classes!!** Mrs. June will have computer classes the week of May 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> and the cost is \$35.00. Please have your money turned in by Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and make check out to Screen Scan. We thank Mrs. June for what she does for the preschool and children.



Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> will be the last day of preschool. Once again thank you for all you do for Trinity Lutheran Preschool.



**Preschool Closed!** Trinity Lutheran Preschool has already made up the bad weather day on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> with all the rain and flooding. The Sealy ISD was out the entire week and preschool was in session three days while Sealy was out. Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> preschool will be closed.

***"The Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you." (Isaiah 30:18)***



**From All of Us At Trinity Lutheran Preschool  
In Christ, Ms. Maggie**



**MINUTES OF TRINITY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL  
MEETING  
APRIL 11, 2016**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by President Dale Toellner, who also opened with prayer. Valerie Engelbrecht presented the devotion from Ecclesiastes 4.

**Council Members Present:**

Pastor Bersche,  
Dale Toellner – President  
Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer  
Jerry Leiber - Stewardship Chair  
Lowell Coody – Elder  
Fred Paben - Trustee Chair  
Ruth Szymanski – Evangelism  
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  
Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

Minutes from the March 14, 2016 meeting were presented for review and approval. Carol Jean Hauschild made motion to accept minutes as written. Patricia Gum seconded the motion. All approved. Motion past.

**Unfinished/Old Business:**

\*Carol Jean Hauschild presented corrected Memorial Fund policy. A motion made by Fred Paben to accept Trinity Lutheran Church Memorial Fund Policy as read and presented. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion past.

\*Valerie Engelbrecht presented Thrivent Action Team information. A Thrivent member can sponsor 2 projects per year (\$250 per project) to pay for supplies to put the project on and has to be approved by Thrivent. Grace Holtkamp is Project Coordinator.

**Chair Reports:**

**Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer**

\*The March 31, 2016 Treasurer's Report and Contributions and Expenses Report for January - March 2016 was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$114,368.91, Building Fund is \$59,754.79, Designated Funds is \$63,159.32 and Total - All Funds is \$237,283.02. The General Fund Contributions is \$18,977.00. Total management and general expenses were \$18,436.33. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is \$540.67. General Fund Expenditures is \$18,436.33.

\*Valerie made a motion for \$1,000 to Youth and remaining balance to LED Lighting Fund from the Lent, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Designated Funds (\$4,110 total). Ruth seconded. All approved. Motion past.

\*Letter read from LCMS Texas District President Rev. Ken Hennings. Action past to be reviewed later with budget.

**Jerry Leiber - Stewardship Chair**

\*Stewardship will only post in Sunday Bulletin the offerings for the past Sundays of this year instead of last year compared to this year to date.

**Lowell Coody** - Elders

\*Elders are letting Fred handle handheld wireless mic issue.

**George Wied** - Vice President (not present) \*No report presented.

**Pastor Bersche**

- \*Easter services went well.
- \*Janis Lapham, pianist, will be out month of May. Samantha Bersche and Janice Wied will be playing.
- \*Pastor asked if church pays for Continuing Education for the Pastor, which the church does.
- \*Visitation teams scheduled.
- \*Preschool Board election on ballot for Congregational Meeting.

**Valerie Engelbrecht**- Education

- \*Palm Sunday Celebration went well.
- \*VBS will be June 14-16th and the board is working on plans.
- \*Youth Service will be on Mother's Day.

**Patricia Gum** - Youth

- \*Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday after church went well with around 20 kids.
- \*Youth BBQ Potato fundraiser sold 160 tickets and almost a full box of Lenten Crosses which made \$1,600.
- \*Youth Garage Sale on Saturday, April 16th along with City Wide Garage Sale.
- \*Grace Holtkamp working with Patricia for Thrivent Action Committee funds for car wash.
- \*Discussion on car insurance for renting vehicles for youth gathering and referred to Johnny Busse.
- \*The hotel deposit was paid and registration fee will be paid by May for youth gathering.

**Ruth Szymanski** - Evangelism Chair

- \*Ruth will give goody bags to Preschool graduates.
- \*Citizens State Bank will have a community shred day on May 14th or 21st and we need to get boxes out of attic on workday.

**Norma Pavelka** - Fellowship Chair

- \*Easter Pancake Breakfast went well with around 80 people attending.
- \*Potluck on June 5th for High School Graduation.
- \*July 4th Picnic will be July 10th.

**Fred Paben** - Trustee Chair

- \*Cash Back Check of \$135.08 from Sams Credit Card given to Norma for Fellowship.
- \*Fred is working on wireless mic and might buy a new one.

**Pat Buechmann** - Usher Chair

- \*All is okay. Ushers are doing well.

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 past.

**New Business:**

- \*The Carillon church bell electronic system information was presented by Dale and needs to be brought to the Congregational meeting. A representative will come to Congregational meeting to give presentation on bells.
- \*Congregational meeting on April 24th - Preschool Board Election - Denise Kopecky is rolling off and Stacy Picard is coming on to Board. Other agenda items are church bells and Thrivent Action Teams.
- \*Dale is resigning from Church Council effective April 30th due to medical issues. Vice President George Wied will take over position per constitution.

There being no further business, President Toellner called for a motion to adjourn. A motion made by Ruth Szymanski to adjourn meeting. Fred Paben seconded the motion. All approved. Motion past.

Norma Pavelka will do devotion for May meeting.

Next meeting will be on Monday, May 9, 2016. Dale Toellner led all in the Lord's Prayer.

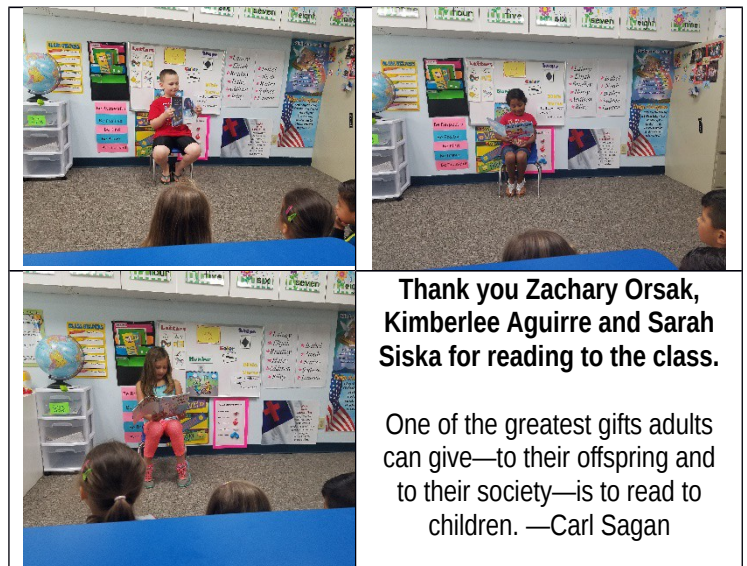
**Dale Toellner, President**

**Johanna Buechmann - Secretary**

**IF YOU CAN READ THIS, THANK A TEACHER!**

Thank you former parents, whose children have graduated from Trinity Lutheran Preschool, for letting your child read to the younger preschoolers throughout the year. Thank you for continuing to support "Reading is Fun"!!

These are a few pictures but we have had so many former students who read to the classes during the year.



**Thank you Zachary Orsak, Kimberlee Aguirre and Sarah Siska for reading to the class.**

One of the greatest gifts adults can give—to their offspring and to their society—is to read to children. —Carl Sagan