



**Building His Body
By Reflecting the Son**

**September
2016**



5:30 pm-7:00 pm Wed. Sept. 21st!
Youth Drive Thru Fundraiser!
Chicken Fried Steak!
Advance Tickets!
\$10.00

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

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Kenneth Bersche
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Maggie Kent

ELDERS:
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TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Praising God by More than Mouth

We use our mouth in speaking by usually doing two things: praising or criticizing. We think one is bad and the other is good; however, criticizing someone or something can be good if we are willing to change the situation for the better. Usually we say something critical only to voice our opinion instead of actually doing something to make it better!

A cowboy, who just became a Christian, made a powerful statement. He said, "Lots of folks, who like to do what is right, think that serving the Lord means shouting themselves hoarse praising His name. Now, I will tell you how I look at that. Let's say that I am working for my boss, Jim, here. If I would do nothing but sit around the house here telling what a good fellow Jim is and singing songs to him, I would not be serving Jim. But when I buckle on my straps and hustle among the hills and see that Jim's herd is all right, that they are not suffering for water or food, or that they are not being driven off the range and branded by cow rustlers, then I am serving Jim the way he wants to be served."

This little illustration goes both ways, we can say all we want in praise or criticism but they are only words unless we put our actions behind them. The illustration helps show that our words and praises are important but many times our deeds are more important. Yes, we worship our Lord but many times in the same breath we criticize someone for something that is trivial. Praising is good and criticizing is good as long as we are willing to help bring about the change. In other words, we shouldn't criticize unless we are willing to be part of the solution to the problem.

We come together as a congregation each week to pray and to sing and to celebrate what God has done for us. That is wonderful! We can also do the opposite, talk about what is wrong with the church or an event of the church. Instead, the words of St. James remind us: Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

Praising God in worship is the way we show our love and our thanks to God. Speaking against someone and their work in the church is not the way we show our love and thanks unless we are willing to do something. Worship is where we get our strength to live our lives in this sinful world. We also need to hear and study His Word and will for our lives. And in response to His love for us, we should be helping those around us in their daily struggles and not merely criticizing.

God does give us eternal life in His Son, Jesus! He also gives us time and talent to help others. This is a great way to serve our God: worship God each week and use your talents and abilities to serve His church. By your actions not by your criticism, you will make a difference for Him in the Church and in this world!

*In Christ's Service,
Pastor Ken*



Coming this fall: A new Bible Study starts on Wednesday, September 14th from 10-11 am. This informal study will meet in the glass room by the church office. More information to come.



Birthdays for the Month!



Greetings to you on this Special Day

9/02 Dolores Cain	9/08 Charles Ekarius	9/18 Kari Furey
9/02 Taylor Cash	9/09 Kellie Kainer	9/19 Katy Grigar
9/02 Russell Dziadek	9/09 Jake Schiller	9/20 Carol Schuknecht
9/02 Deborah Christiansen	9/09 Patricia Grigar	9/21 Ron Hartmann
9/03 Shirley Schier	9/10 Janice Wied	9/23 Melissa Bersche
9/05 Ethel Donnelly	9/10 Alice Moore	9/27 Rebecca Tipton
9/05 Loretta Dziadek	9/10 Cory Barrett	9/25 Brandi Hobratschk
9/05 Leisha Harrison	9/10 Aaron Kutra	9/26 ANTHONY HORELICA
9/07 RYLYNN FUREY	9/10 Billy Schaffner	9/27 Briana Kent
9/07 Drake Grigar	9/17 Doyle Kornegay	Stacie Leiber



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

9/02/1967 Fay and Larry Alexander	9/12/1998 David and Brenda Cash
9/07/2002 Jason and Kellie Kainer	9/19/1998 Robert and Marie Herridge
9/08/1990 Tracy and Marty Schiller	9/20/1980 Brad and Maggie Kent

Prayers for Nursing Home And Shut Ins

Ethel Donnelly Colonial Belle Sealy	Rae Marie Kveton Colonial Belle - Sealy
Charles Bolten Colonial Belle - Sealy	*Bernice Hintz Kruze Village: Rehab for broken leg P. O. Box 1651 Brenham, TX 77833 979-289-2568
Joyce Meyer Colonial Belle - Sealy	



KIDS: RALLY DAY!! Please join us for a homemade breakfast and fun on Sunday, September 11th as we kick off this year's Sunday School and move to our new classes!!! "Sunday School's so bright this year.....you gotta wear shades" 😎 See ya then!!



Circle of Friends Luncheon Is BACK! When: Wednesday, Sept. 7th! Our next Circle of Friends Luncheon at Trinity is Wednesday, Sept. 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 on the sheet 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



Nominating Committee Church Council Nominations Committee Members are:

Pastor Bersche, Fred Paben, Gene Remmert, Geraldine Barrett and Stephen Stuessel with Fred Paben in charge of committee. Committee will need names by October 23rd meeting. If you are interested in serving on a board please contact one of the nominating committee members.



Mark Romano and Richard Engelbrecht would like to thank everyone who assisted in the plates to-go inside and outside. It was a great success!

Thank You! Thanks to everyone who donated and purchased items for the Country Store for the BBQ. With all of your help this was a great success. **Johanna and Mary Buechmann**



A Big Huge Thank You to everyone who helped in defraying the cost of the BBQ! Your donations were greatly appreciated!!

Maggie Kent



Wow!! What an incredible day we had at the annual bbq! Thank you to each and every member who played any part of making the day a huge success-it was truly a team effort, worth every moment of hard work. The room looked like a big family picnic, and everyone seemed to have a great time, visiting while they were eating. Thank you again for all your efforts!

Janice Wied, Auction Chair



Youth Fundraiser on September 21st

The Youth will be having a drive thru only fundraiser on Wednesday, September 21st. Tickets will be pre-sale only and will consist of chicken fried steak, buttered potatoes and green beans with all the trimmings. Tickets are \$10.00 and you can contact any of the youth for tickets or call/text Patricia Gum at (979) 743-5319.

Thanks, Patricia Gum



Youth Gathering

We had 15 youth from our congregation attend the LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July, along with 4 adult chaperones. This was the first national gathering for most of us who attended and was by far the best experience we could have imagined. There truly aren't enough words to describe the feeling of seeing 25,000 Lutheran youth and volunteers worshipping together. Our topic for the Gathering was having true Joy in Christ alone and the Bible scripture for the mass events was based on St. Paul's letter to the Philippians. As an adult chaperone, I witnessed our youth grow in friendship and their faith over the five days. It was amazing to watch our youth grow so strongly and return home to continue spreading God's word and growing the friendships even closer to each other and God. Since we have returned home from the Gathering, our youth have asked to continue getting together for Bible study and bonding time. We have already hosted a Youth All-nighter where we had 24 youth in attendance from our congregation, as well as other area churches. A great time was had by all and they are looking forward to the next youth event. Some of the youth have written a statement about the experience they had at the Gathering.

Kristen Cash: "My trip to New Orleans was the best experience that I had for showing my love and faith to God." Krystal Cash "My experience at the Youth Gathering was amazing and I grew stronger in my faith, learned new things and made great friends!" Meagan Keeton: "I have never felt closer to our Lord and Savior then I do after experiencing the National Gathering. At times of trouble I realize that I'm not alone and never will be because God is always there for me and will never forsake me." Melissa Bersche: "For me the youth gathering experience meant getting to know our youth better. It was neat to watch them through the week and seeing the joy that only Jesus can give." Danielle Bersche: "The best thing about the National Youth Gathering was getting to meet new people from all around the country." Drake Grigar: "The youth gathering was a lot of fun, I would definitely do it again if I got the chance." Tara Johnston: "It is a WOW moment to experience 25,000 youth in worship together." Samantha Bersche: "It was empowering to see 22,000 people gathered in one place who all believe the same things." Austin Keeton: "The experience over all was amazing and I am so very glad I got to attend. I met so many new people which was awesome and I've gotten closer to God through the National Youth Gathering." Lauren Thielemann: "I had a super awesome time! I loved it and hope to go back as a Young Adult Volunteer in 2019." Eleanor Anderson: "Thank you for the amazing trip to New Orleans. It was a life changing experience and I loved every minute of it." Kolby Wolf: "It was a life changing experience going to the NYG in New Orleans. I would definitely love to go again." Kyle Johnston: "I was impressed with all the speakers that spoke at the event." Clayton Fritsch: "I enjoyed the overall experience of the Gathering, but I wish we would have gotten to do a service project while we were there."


Thank you to everyone who has helped support our amazing Youth group throughout the last couple of years. Without the support of our wonderful, caring and generous congregation, family and friends we could not have had this wonderful opportunity to worship with so many other youth from around the world. I witnessed our Youth at the highest point in their faith during that week long experience and I couldn't be more proud of the group we have.

*Thank you,
Patricia Gum*




Welcome I would like to thank all the parents who participated in Parent Orientation. This was a great time for you and your child to meet new parents and to get to know all the teachers who will be in your child's life, teaching them about Jesus Christ. Trinity Lutheran Preschool has been blessed with teachers who are enthusiastic, dedicated and loving. We all know how important A, B, C's and 1, 2, 3's but the most important lesson your child will learn is to know that Jesus loves them.


The Staff of Trinity Lutheran Preschool is excited about the 2016-2017 school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask and we will be happy to answer them. I know this will be a great year with you being involved with your child in the preschool program.

 **Pancake Breakfast!** The preschool starts off the year by having a Pancake Breakfast Fund Raiser! This will take place on Monday September 12th 7:45 am - 8:30 am. This is also the day after Grandparents Day. So please invite everyone and have breakfast with your child and make a Love Donation to the preschool. The proceeds from the pancake breakfast help with the cost of teacher training, FBI background checks and CPR & First Aid.

This is a great time for the parents to have that special time with their children and to get to know other parents, teachers and children. What a great way to start off the year! Come and enjoy breakfast Monday September 12th.

 **Computer Classes to Begin!** Computer lessons are being offered if you are interested. June Harris out of Austin has been giving computer lessons to the children for many years here at Trinity whose parents want them to participate. This will be offered to the three and four-year-old classes. Ms. June will give four one-half hour lessons for \$45.00 and once completed she will send another form to re-sign and pay for another four sessions. This will take place throughout the year. Children enjoy playing games on the computer at home, but Ms. June teaches the correct terms and proper way of getting on and off the computer and most important, listening skills. If Ms. June feels that your child is not ready for computer lessons, she will let you know.


Please fill out the information form if you are interested for your child to learn about computers. First session of computer classes will begin on Tuesday, September 6th. Please let me know if you are interested in having your child take computer lessons. Money and forms may be turned into the office so I can inform Ms. June how many children will participate. If paying by check please make your check out to **Screen Scan**. Money needs to be turned into the office by September 6th.

 **Themes!** The themes for the month of September are: Creation/Self/Safety and Grandparents Day. The spiritual emphasis is to help children discover that the Bible tells us about God and His creation.


The children will also begin to learn letters, numbers, shapes, colors and so much more. We do not rush a child.


We let them learn at their own pace and with help from you at home. Always remember that children learn through play.


The children will start off with the Bible stories during Chapel on how God created the world. Children will learn songs, finger plays and pledges and memorizing Bible verses. Listen to your child and see all the wonderful things they learn in the classroom, in Chapel and while playing.


 **911 Safety!** Retired State Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will come to the center on Wednesday September 14th at 10:00 am to talk to the children about the importance of safety. He will also talk to the children about the importance of seat belt safety and why car seats are very important.

Mr. Gary, as the children call him, will discuss the importance of 911 and stranger danger and what to do in case of an emergency. These are all very important lessons for all children to learn.


 **Red/White and Blue Day!** On Friday, September 9th the children can wear the colors RED/WHITE and BLUE to represent and not forget the 9/11 tragedy. We are going to focus on the fact that so many heroes came out of 9/11 whether they wanted to be a hero, or not. With all the natural disasters that are going on in the world, and close to us, people step up to do the right thing.

 **Wear RED Day!** Since the children are learning the color RED for the month, we will have a special color day. On Wednesday, September 7th, the children can come to preschool dressed in something RED to reinforce the color!

 **Back Yard Bash!** On Friday, September 16th, all the preschoolers will have a BACK YARD BASH Day! Each child needs to bring a sack lunch to school and enjoy the day outside playing! This is a great way for all the children to get to know one another, have fun and create memories. Let's pray that we will have nice weather to enjoy. If not, we will have Trinity's beautiful gym for the children to enjoy their lunch.

 **Special Book Week!** Beginning Monday September 19th-23rd, preschool will have Special Book Week! Another way we make reading fun is to have your child bring some of their books from home (please label with name) a pillow, blanket, and favorite stuffed animal. The teacher will read some of the books and let the children share their books while relaxing with their items brought from home. Children can tell each other their story books and open a world of imagination.

Reading is very important in a young child's life. Encouraging reading is important and we try to make it fun! It gives them an opportunity to listen, explore, and imagine what triggers their brain to answer questions after a story is read. Let's get ready to read!

 **Fall Pictures!** Stephanie K Photography will be here two different days at 8:00 am to take fall individual and class pictures. The two and three-year-old classes will have their picture taken on Wednesday, September 21st and Wednesday, September 28th the four-year-old classes will have their turn to have fall and class pictures taken. You will receive a form and all pictures are pre-paid. All forms and money are due by Friday September 16th.



Snacks! Snacks are not required 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 need to buy for the entire preschool. When we have several parents help in donating we always have enough for all the children.

If you would like to donate snacks to the preschool here are some ideas: cheese nips, honey combs, round crackers, pretzels, fruit loops, popcorn, goldfish or whatever you think is a good deal. If anyone goes to Sam's the children and teachers enjoy Nacho Cheese without jalapeños! We appreciate it all! When you go shopping think about the preschool!

If your child is allergic to certain foods, please advise the office and your child's teacher. We do have children with different food allergies. Please ask for a copy of the snack calendar and if your child cannot have this particular snack of the day, please provide a snack for your child.



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 seven 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 September are:

September 12th – September 16th

Colton Andel & Bricen Beckendorff

September 19th -September 23rd

Lily Bermea & Josephine Biberstein

September 26th -September 30th

James Bradenburg & Eleanor Callender

Please bring your pictures to your child's teacher the Friday before your child is family of the week.



Reinforcement! Parents, please help the teachers with the rules of the preschool at home. If your child comes home with a behavior report or the teacher lets you know about your child's day and there was inappropriate behavior, please reinforce and talk to your child about what happened at preschool. Please help him/her understand the circumstances of inappropriate and appropriate behavior.

The first two weeks of preschool are rules and manners. Ask your child what the rules are in the classroom, snack time, chapel, playground and gym. When all of us are working together to reinforce the rules, this makes transition easier for your child and the teacher.



Drills! The preschool conducts monthly fire drills. This is not to frighten the children but to have them prepared in case of a fire. Other drills conducted every three months are severe weather, reverse evacuation, shelter in place and lock down drills. So if your child comes home and says we had a fire or disaster today you will know why.



Emergency Preparedness Plan! Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool is required by state law and has an

Emergency/Disaster Plan to provide safe care for our children, should an emergency or disaster occur during the program day.

Relocation in case of a disaster will be the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church located at 525 5th Street in Sealy, which is in walking distance. A copy of this plan is always available for review. One copy is located in each classroom. You may come by the preschool office or ask your child's teacher if you would like to review the plan. The plan **MUST** not leave the classroom. A Parent/Guardian from each family is asked to sign that they have knowledge and have reviewed the Disaster Preparedness Plan. When you sign the Parent Handbook Contract this is acknowledgment for the state that you are aware of our Disaster Plan.

I would like to thank all the parents in helping with the emergency plan by providing items needed that help defray the cost to the preschool program. The food will be donated to the Christian Food Pantry at the end of the year if it was not used for any disaster. This is another way to help the preschool and others in the community.



Attending the Whole Week! We encourage you to send your child five days a week. This is only a \$20.00 difference. Coming five days a week is an opportunity in preparing your child to learn to share, follow instructions, and begin the foundation for learning that will occur in elementary school. Children thrive when there is consistency in care between home and school.

We notice children who come one day, miss the next, and then come again, commonly find it much more difficult to adapt to the class routine than children who attend five-days a week. We encourage five days a week noticing the difference between the children whose attendance is consistent and those who come for two or three days a week. Children attending five days a week normally make much more progress academically and socially in comparison with those children who attend a few days a week.

This is a suggestion and I know that some are not able to have their children attend all five days. I want you to know the difference between attending three day verses five days. Pray about this and if this is not the right decision for you we understand.



Teachers! Preschool Teachers for the 2016-2017 school year are:

Ms. Allysha Toellner – Two Year Old's

Ms. Shea Orsak – Young Three's

Ms. Beatrice Aguirre – Older Three's

Ms. Beth Barrett – Young Four's

Ms. Kristi Flores – Older Four's

Robin Jacobson – Office Assistant

All of us here at Trinity Lutheran Preschool are dedicated in caring for your child.

**Reminder Preschool Closed and Monday September 5th
Friday, September 23rd!
In Christ, Ms. Maggie**



**MINUTES COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2016**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting was called to order by Lee Hobratschk, who also opened with prayer. Ruth Szymanski presented the devotion "Whose Watching You" based on Psalm 34:15-22.

Council Members Present:

- Pastor Bersche,
- George Wied – President
- Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer
- Lee Hobratscht - Elder Chair
- Jerry Leiber - Stewardship Chair
- Ruth Szymanski – Evangelism
- Fred Paben - Trustee Chair
- Patricia Gum - Youth Chair
- Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair
- Johanna Buechmann - Secretary

Council Members Absent:

- Ron Hartmann - Vice President
- Valerie Engelbrecht - Education Chair
- Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair

Minutes from the July 11, 2016 meeting was presented for review and approval. Ruth Szymanski made motion to accept minutes as written. Pat Buechmann seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

Unfinished/Old Business:

*No unfinished or old business to report.

Chair Reports:

Carol Jean Hauschild - Treasurer

*The July 31, 2016 Treasurer's Report was presented. The cash balances in the General Fund is \$116,665.97, Building Fund is \$60,301.86, Designated Funds is \$49,238.32 and Total - All Funds is \$226,206.15. The General Fund Contributions is \$18,938.00. Total management and general expenses is \$21,034.20. The Excess (deficit) of contributions over expenses is (\$2,096.20). General Fund Expenditures is \$21,034.20.

Jerry Leiber - Stewardship Chair

*Budget worksheets are due.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chair

*Elders discussed 2017 church budget.
*Hwy 36 sign to be changed for BBQ service times.
*Discussion on large Hwy 36 BBQ sign and reason sign is no longer used due to financial expense.

Ron Hartmann - Vice President (absent)

*No report presented.

Pastor Bersche

*Adult Bible Class starts September to May on Wednesday mornings from 10 to 11 am.
*Sunday morning Bible Class studying Revelation 14.
*Pastor would like to plan a Youth Bible Study and Youth Activity once a month.

*BBQ Pit Service starts at 6:30 am with sign in and offering plate.

*Confirmation and First Communion class starts September 11th for 5th and 6th graders with a projected Confirmation date of May 7, 2017.

Valerie Engelbrecht- Education (absent)

*BBQ games will be a water slide outside and was paid by a donation.

*Valerie will be turning in budget.

*Rally Day will be September 11th.

Patricia Gum - Youth

*The Youth Gathering went very well. Each youth will write one sentence regarding gathering to Patricia for article.

*Youth Service and Youth All Nighter also went well.

*Patricia will be working on youth drive thru dinner for Wednesday, September 21st.

Ruth Szymanski - Evangelism Chair

*One call to make.

Norma Pavelka - Fellowship Chair (absent) *No report presented.

Fred Paben - Trustee Chair

*Fred has letters for Hwy 36 sign.

*A new hot water heater has been installed in kitchen.

*The red board room chair has been fixed.

Pat Buechmann - Usher Chair

*Everything is okay.

President Wied called for a motion to approve the Chair Reports. Motion was made by Carol Jean Hauschild to accept the Chair Reports as presented. Lee Hobratscht seconded the motion. All approved and the motion passed.

New Business:

*Nominations Committee will be Pastor Bersche, Fred Paben, Gene Remmert, Geraldine Barrett and Stephen Stuessel with Fred Paben in charge of committee. Committee will need names by October 23rd meeting.

*Motion made by Carol Jean Hauschild for BBQ funds dispersed for \$1,000 to Youth, \$250 to Sealy Ministerial Alliance, \$250 Sealy Christian Food Pantry with rest of funds to General Fund. Fred Paben seconded motion. All approved and the motion passed.

*No further new business.

There being no further business, George Wied called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Lee Hobratscht to adjourn meeting. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

Carol Jean Hauschild will do devotion for September meeting. Next meeting will be on Monday, September 12, 2016. Pastor Bersche led all in the Lord's Prayer.

George Wied, President
Johanna Buechmann - Secretary