



TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

MAY
2017



Registration - 2017
Tuesday - Thursday
June 20 - 22, 2017
6:00 - 8:00 pm
For youth entering
Kindergarten thru 5th Grade

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

Church Phone:
979.885.2211
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Web site
www.flcsealy.org

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

ELDERS:
Bobby Barrett, 885-3450
Lowell Coody, 979-270-2161
Joel Grigar, 885-1415
Lee Hobrathschk, 832-419-2998
Doyle Kornegay, 512-694-8057
Tracy Schiller, 865-2748
Johnnie Sodalak 885-3873
Stephen Stuessel 885-9496
Barry Wolf, 877-0341

When Your Hut Is Burning

He was the only survivor of a shipwreck. He was washed up on a small, uninhabited island along with a few supplies that also washed up on shore. He prayed unceasingly and feverishly for God to rescue him. Every day he would scan the horizon for some help but none seemed to ever come. Exhausted, from the shipwreck and his whole ordeal, he slowly built a little hut out of driftwood to protect him and his few supplies from the elements: the hot sun and the unbearable rains.

One day, after scavenging for food, he came back to his hut, only to find out that it was on fire. The smoke rolled up into the sky as the driftwood burned to the ground along with all his supplies and everything he had. The worst had happened. He was stunned with grief and anger. He cried out, "God, how could you allow this to happen to me? Not only am I stranded all alone on this island but now I have completely nothing."

He was awakened the next morning by the sound of a large ship. It was approaching the island and it was coming to rescue him. When he was pulled aboard the ship, he quickly asked his rescuers, "How did you ever find me?" They replied, "We saw your smoke signal!" There will be a lot of tough, unexplained things that happen to us. It is easy to blame God and get discouraged when things go wrong in our lives. We should not lose heart though because God is still working in our lives. Even in the midst of pain and suffering, He is there. So remember, the next time your hut is burning to the ground, it might be a smoke signal that summons your rescue.

For all the negative things we may say to ourselves, God has a positive statement. We might think, "It is impossible," but God says, "All things are possible." We frequently say, "I can't go on," but God says, "My grace is sufficient for you." We often say, "I can't manage," but God says, "I will supply all your needs." We might say, "I feel all alone," but God says, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

In the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus,

Pastor Ken



CONFIRMATION EXAMINATION of our seven confirmands, Deanna Cash, Taylor Cash, Lindsey Dziadek, Gage Grigar, Tara Hobbs, Alexis Horelica and Neil Johnston will take place on Wednesday, May 3rd at 7:00 pm in the gym. Anyone and everyone is invited to come.



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY – Seven students will be confirmed on Sunday, May 7, 2017. Please join us for Rite of Confirmation, Deanna Cash, Taylor Cash, Lindsey Dziadek, Gage Grigar, Tara Hobbs, Alexis Horelica and Neil Johnston witnessing God's promise given in Baptism with profession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of faithfulness to Christ.

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	6/24 BRYCE JALOWAY
5/09 George Baade	5/14 Sterling Schiller	5/24 Susie Toellner
5/09 Robin Jacobson	5/15 Bonnie Reay	5/25 Casey Picard
5/09 Meagan Murrell	5/17 Geraldine Stuessel	5/27 Viola Sebesta
5/10 David Hauschild	5/18 Scott Stuessel	5/29 Neil Johnston
5/10 Barbara Vohs	5/19 Don Henry	5/29 Brody Schiller
5/11 CALEB KRUZEL	5/20 Elgien Konesheck	5/30 Brittney Steinhauser
5/11 Brittany Foerster		5/31 Lindsey Dziadek

Happy Anniversary

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

5/02/1992 Dean and Robin Jacobson	5/12/1979 Robert and Barbara Vohs
5/6/2016 Lowell and Andrea Coody	5/21/1961 Jerry and Dolores Cain
5/10/1969 Bill and Linda Blume	5/24/1980 Robert and Donna Emshoff

Prayers for Nursing Home and Shut Ins

Ethel Donnelly Colonial Belle- Sealy	Rae Marie Kveton Colonial Belle – Sealy	Joyce Meyer Colonial Belle – Sealy
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Prayers of Thanksgiving

Brandon and Jennifer Blume were blessed with a beautiful daughter, Brynn Ainsley Blume on Tuesday March 14, 2017 at 2:59 pm at Memorial Hermann in Katy, weighing 6lbs and 14 oz. 20 1/4 inches long. Proud grandparents are Bill and Linda Blume and Jim Moore and Donna Moore.



HOLY COMMUNION



The Elders have recommended and the Church Council approved moving Communion from our regular third Sunday, May 21, to the fourth Sunday, May 28. This will allow a more guest-friendly service for the families of our Preschool graduates on the 21st, and a sacramental celebration for our Memorial Day weekend observance.

THANKS



Thank you to the ones that donate towards the blessing treasure box for the children's message. This is greatly appreciated!



CHAT AND CHEW

Everyone is welcomed to stay after church in the narthex each Sunday for coffee and cookies giving time to fellowship among each other.



Trinity Lutheran Church Ladies

Sewing Organization sent off:

- 15 Fabric Kits
- 12 Personal Care Kits
- 32 School Kits

These kits were delivered to Epiphany Lutheran Church to be mailed off to Lutheran World Relief. God continue to bless the ladies who give precious time to make the world a better place for others.



Bake Sale

Trinity Lutheran Church Ladies Aid is having a bake sale Friday, May 12th 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 12th "the day of the sale." You may also bring in your items to the church the day before during office hours. Please sign up in the Narthex if you would like to help out!



Circle of Friends

Luncheon!

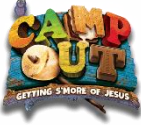
When: Wednesday, 3rd! Time: 12:15 pm

Everyone is invited to Circle of Friends MAY 3rd at 12:15 for lunch. Come enjoy the meal and fellowship! Remember to invite your friends and neighbors. Please sign you and your friends up in the narthex if you would like to attend or bring a dessert. Contact Mary Buechmann for any questions.



High School and

College Graduation will take place on Sunday June 4th during the 10:00 am worship service. Please have available to the church office a couple of baby pictures, activity pictures and a cap and gown picture to be placed on the screen. Please let the church office know if you are graduating college. Please hand pictures into the church office by Friday, May 26th. PLEASE WEAR YOUR GRADUATION CAP AND GOWN!



VBS Registration - 2017

Tuesday - Thursday, June 20 - 22, 2017
6:00 - 8:00 pm

For youth entering Kindergarten thru 5th Grade
(Snacks provided Tuesday & Wednesday)
(Dinner provided Thursday)

Please look for your registration form in this newsletter and place in the decorated VBS box. Hope to see a lot of you at VBS!!



Everyone is invited to the four-year-old class graduation that will take place on Sunday, May 21, 2017 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 21st 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.



Cinco De Mayo Celebration- Trinity Lutheran Preschool will celebrate Cinco de Mayo on Friday, May 5th. The children will make quesadillas, sombreros and maracas'. This is a great multicultural lesson for the children.



Library Field Trip – The four year old classes will take a walking field trip to Gordon Memorial Library on Tuesday, May 9th at 10:30 am. We need parents to help walk the children to the library, supervision while in the library and walk the children back to Trinity. The children will take a tour of the facility and find out about the summer reading programs that they have available and learn that books are a great adventure in a person's life. A permission form must be signed and turned into the teacher before attending the field trip.



Sunglasses Day! On Friday, May 12th, 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 Thursday, May 11th 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, and Mr. Gary will tell us how to stay safe in the water.

 **Wear Purple Day!** On Friday May 12th 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 3 rd Popsicles!	Wednesday, May 18 th MINI Ice Cream Sandwiches for party day!
Wednesday, May 10 th MINI Drumsticks	
Wednesday, May 17 th Push Ups	

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 Bash!** We will have a blast outside by having a Back Yard Picnic Bash. 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 12th to enjoy the day outside with our Back Yard Picnic! Whether we have rain or not we will enjoy the day! This is the same day as Sunglasses Day!!


 **Rainbow Day!** The preschool will have a Rainbow Day on Friday, May 19th. 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 two-year-old parents 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 thank you for supporting the preschool this year.

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. 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 summer. You are always welcome!

 **Teacher Appreciation!** Teacher Appreciation Week is May 1st– May 5th. 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 Thursday, May 18th, 9:30 am-10:30 am. Please look for the sign-up list to help with games and refreshments!

“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
Church
Council*



**MINUTES OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
April 10, 2017**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by Vice President, Ron Hartmann. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Bersche. Susie Hartmann presented the devotion "I Love You Jesus."

Council members present:

- Pastor Bersche
- Ron Hartmann – Vice President
- Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer
- Ruth Szymanski – Secretary
- Lee Hobratschk – Elder Chairman
- Valerie Engelbrecht – Education Chairman
- Jerry Leiber – Stewardship Chairman
- Susie Hartmann – Evangelism Chairman
- Bill Blume – Trustee Chairman
- Johanna Buechmann – Usher Chairman
- Becky Tipton – Evangelism Chairman
- Maggie Kent – Preschool

Council members absent: – George Wied – President

The Minutes from the meeting held on March 13, 2017 were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by Becky Tipton, seconded by Susie Hartmann to accept the minutes as presented. All Council members approved and the motion passed.

Unfinished/Old Business

- The contract for the rental of the gym was presented for review. This was tabled until the next meeting for more discussion.
- The Council discussed where the funds that were raised from the Lenten soup suppers should be placed. It was decided that each group that sponsors a soup supper will determine where the funds should go.

Chairmen Reports

Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer

- The March 31, 2017, Treasurer's report, along with contributions and expenses for the month, were presented. The cash balance in the General Fund is \$113,371.56. The Building Fund balance is \$50,468.23 and the Designated Funds balance is \$47,052.75. These will be the correct balances after the purchase amount of the new air conditioner is re-classed to the correct fund. The Total of all Funds is \$210,892.54.

Jerry Leiber – Stewardship Chairman

- Nothing to report

Lee Hobratschk – Elder Chairman

- Lee reported that the video/recording equipment in the choir loft is still not working. They are attempting to resolve the problem, but a new camera may need to be purchased.

Ron Hartmann – Vice President

- Nothing to report

Pastor Bersche

- Pastor reported that in addition to visiting our shut-ins at the nursing home, he also visits two members who are not able to attend church services at this time.
- The Council discussed the upcoming Holy Week services. Pastor noted that on Maundy Thursday, the Altar will be stripped of all paraments, as well as the candles. Also, the Lord's Supper will be served at all four of the services.
- Pastor will be attending a Pastor's Conference on May 1st and 2nd.
- On May 3, 2017, the Confirmation examination will take place, with Confirmation taking place on May 7th. There are 7 confirmands.
- Preschool graduation will be on May 21st, 2017.
- On Monday, May 22nd, Pastor will be undergoing his surgery.

Valerie Engelbrecht – Board of Education

- The Youth will be holding the church service on April 30th, 2017.
- The Youth will have carnations on Mother's Day to hand out.

- Vacation Bible School will take place June 20th thru June 22nd at 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.
- Valerie also reported that the Easter egg hunt that took place on Palm Sunday was a success.

Rebecca Tipton – Evangelism Chairman

- The Council discussed the possibility of purchasing banners to be displayed in the church parking lot or at other locations on the church grounds. These banners will advertise events that are happening at Trinity.
- The next Evangelism meeting is April 27th, at 5:30 p.m.

Susie Hartmann – Fellowship Chairman

- The Fellowship committee proposed that the supplies in the church’s kitchen be shared between the different groups. This included items such as paper goods, cups, knives and forks, sugar, coffee, etc. This proposal will not include the Preschool or the supplies for the annual Church barbecue. The Fellowship committee will monitor and purchase the supplies. Becky Tipton made a motion that the kitchen supplies be combined and shared. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.
- The Council also discussed having an Elder assist Pastor with baptisms. Lee Hobratchsk will discuss this with the Elders.

Bill Blume – Trustee Chairman

- A new ice machine is in the process of being purchased.
- The Church landscaping for spring has been completed.
- The Trustee committee is looking for someone to refinish the front entry doors to the Church.
- The new air conditioning system has been completed.

Johanna Buechmann – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report

Maggie Kent - Preschool

- The Congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, April 30th. Two members of the Preschool Board,

Melinda Schiller and Cheryl Steinhauser, will run for re-election. No new members will need to be voted on.

Ron Hartmann called for a motion to approve the Reports. The motion was made by Carol Jean Hauschild to accept the Chairmen Reports as presented. Bill Blume seconded the motion. All Council members approved the Reports and the motion passed.

New Business – None

There being no further business, Ron Hartmann called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Susie Hartmann, seconded by Ruth Szymanski. All members approved and the motion passed. Lee Hobratchsk will do the devotion for the May meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 8th, 2017. The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

*Ron Hartmann-Vice President
Ruth Szymanski-Secretary*

Don't Forget About



VBS



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