



Building His Body
By
Reflecting the Son

September



Join us on
September 10, 2017
For Rally Day
(9:00 am Breakfast)
To Kick Off the
New Sunday School Year!

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.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 Sodolak 885-3873
Stephen Stuessel 885-9496
Barry Wolf, (361) 522-2710

TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Bad Into Good: When Your Hut Is Burning

He was the only survivor of the shipwreck. He got washed up on a small, uninhabitable, deserted island in the Pacific Ocean. Each day he prayed feverishly for God to rescue him. And each day he scanned the horizon to see nothing but ocean. He saw no help in sight. After the first week he became exhausted and realized that he had to build some shelter from the elements of the wind, sun, and rain. So with the little strength that he had, he managed to build a little hut out of driftwood not only to protect him from the elements but also to store the few items he had left that washed up on the shore after the wreck.

Each day he would sit there on the shore, praying, looking, and hoping that maybe, possibly, someone would come and rescue him. Yet day after day, he felt all alone as he saw nothing but blue waters. And when he wasn't praying and looking, he would be out looking for any food to give him some sustenance for life.

One day, while out scavenging for food, he noticed the smell of smoke. He thought, "Could it possibly be someone who had come to answer his prayers of rescue?" Yet when he arrived back home to his hut, he noticed that the smoke and the flames were coming out of roof of his makeshift home. He desperately thought to himself, "The worst has happened. Everything is lost. How could this have happened?"

He was stunned with grief and anger. He cried out, "God, how could you do this to me? I've been praying to be rescued for all these days and You answered me by burning down my shelter."

Early the next day, he was awakened by the sound of a ship that was approaching the island. It had come to rescue him. When aboard the rescue ship, the man asked his rescuers, "How did you know that I was here?" They simply replied, "We saw your smoke signal."

In life, there are a lot of tough, unexplained things that happen to us and our loved ones. And it is easy to get discouraged when things are going badly for us. But we should not lose heart, because God is at work in our lives, even in the midst of pain and suffering.

Remember, the next time your little hut is burning to the ground, it may be a smoke signal that summons the grace and love of God. For all the negative things we have to say to ourselves, God has a positive answer for it. We often say, "It is impossible." But God says, "All things are possible." We often say, "I can't go on." But God says, "My grace is sufficient." We often say, "I can't manage." But God says, "I will supply all your needs." We often say, "I feel all alone." But God says, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

In CHRIST,
Pastor Ken

Youth Group **YOUTH** – We are in need of someone to volunteer working and coordinating our youth here at Trinity. If you are interested please contact Pastor Bersche or George



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS 2017-2018 If anyone is interested in teaching Sunday School where help is much needed for the 2017-2018 year, please contact: Valerie Engelbrecht valerie.june@sbcglobal.net 281-703-4903



for the Month! Greetings to you on this Special Day



9/02 Dolores Cain	9/09 Kellie Kainer	9/18 Kari Furey
9/02 Taylor Cash	9/09 Jake Schiller	9/19 Katy Grigar
9/02 Russell Dziadek	9/09 Patricia Grigar	9/20 Carol Schuknecht
9/02 Deborah Christiansen	9/10 Janice Wied	9/21 Ron Hartmann
9/03 Shirley Schier	9/10 Alice Moore	9/23 Melissa Bersche
9/04 Carl Wied	9/10 Cory Barrett	9/27 Rebecca Tipton
9/05 Ethel Donnelly	9/10 Aaron Kutra	9/25 Brandi Hobratschk
9/05 Loretta Dziadek	9/10 Billy Schaffner	9/26 ANTHONY HORELICA
9/05 Leisha Wied	9/17 Doyle Kornegay	9/27 Briana Kent
9/07 RYLYNN FUREY		9/28 Stacie Leiber
9/07 Drake Grigar		



Happy Anniversary

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

9/02/1967 Larry and Fay 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

<u>Ethel Donnelly</u> Colonial Belle- Sealy	<u>Rae Marie Kveton</u> Colonial Belle - Sealy	<u>Joyce Meyer</u> Colonial Belle - Sealy
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Each Sunday for Sunday School And Church

Sunday School All Ages!

Join us on

September 10, 2017

For Rally Day

(9:00 am Breakfast)

To Kick Off the New Sunday School Year!

We look forward to seeing you there!



Confirmation Meeting

A Short Confirmation Parents Meeting will be after church Sunday, September 17th. We will discuss confirmation instruction and dates for Confirmation Sunday. In Christ, Pastor Ken

Thank you!

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. Country Store brought in \$900.00 thanks to all of you!

Johanna and Mary Buzchmann

Thank You So Much!

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

JOIN US Sunday's



Fellowship Breakfast before Sunday School

Join us at 8:30 am for Fellowship with coffee, juice, donuts, fruits and more before Sunday School at 9:00 am. All ages please continue enjoying breakfast taking it with you as we divide into our Sunday School classes.



Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class

continues through the summer. Please join us for furthering your Christian education. Only those who can recite the 10 confessions our church subscribes to can be exempt. See you Sunday at 9:00 am.



Children, Jr. High and High School Bible Classes

God should be at the center of our lives, meaning that we should consider Him in everything we do. Join us for fellowship breakfast before Sunday School at 9:00 am and church at 10:00 am.



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.

Bell Choir



Handbell Choir

- We are looking for anyone that is interested in ringing bells for the Bell Choir. If you are interested in ringing (no experience necessary or need to know about music to participate) please contact Pam Epperly pgepperly@gmail.com or the church office by the end of August. Without enough ringers we will not have Bell Choir for Trinity Lutheran Church. We are praying that some of our members will consider ringing bells.



THE CHOIR MINISTRY

is looking for members after the BBQ to join the choir to sing on Sunday mornings when scheduled. Current members and NEW members are needed! The more people that participate, the more fun! Come and give it a try.



Circle of Friends Luncheon Is

RETURNING! Our next Circle of Friends Luncheon at Trinity is Wednesday, Sept. 6th at 12:15 pm. Enjoy Lunch! Play Bingo! Play Dominoes Or Just Have Lunch with Us! Remember to sign up if you are planning to attend and invite your friends and neighbors. Come and Enjoy the Fellowship and Food!! If you have any questions please contact: Mary Buechmann-885-2730



But Jesus said, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. (Matthew 19:14)



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 2017-2018 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 11th 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 11th.


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 20th 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/**, or not. With all the natural disasters that are going **White and Blue Day!** On Monday, September 11th 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 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 Friday, September 8th, the children can come to preschool dressed in something RED to reinforce the color!

 **Back Yard Bash!** On Friday, September 15th, 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 18th- 22nd, 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 take fall individual pictures on Wednesday, September 27th beginning at 8:00 am. You will receive a form and all pictures are pre-paid. All forms and money are due by Friday September 22nd.

 **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 there is 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!

 **Action Plan or Emergency Response Plan Mandatory by the State** is required by your doctor if your child is allergic to certain foods, asthmatic and or needs an epipen. The purpose of this Emergency Response Plan is to establish an organizational structure and procedures for response to major emergencies. It assigns the roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the plan during an emergency following the incident. 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. If you have any questions please come and talk to me.

 **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.

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 11th – September 15th
Reagan Allen & Emilio Avila
September 18th -September 22nd

Benjamin Barron & Bricen Beckendorff

September 25th -September 29th

Josephine & Margaret Biberstein

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 2017-2018 school year are:

Ms. Allysha Toellner – Two Year Old's

Ms. Shea Orsak – Young Three's

Ms. Beatrice Aguirre – Older Three's

Ms. Kristi Flores – Four's

Robin Jacobson – Office Assistant

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

In Christ, Ms. Maggie



MINUTES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

August 14, 2017

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by President, George Wied. George opened the meeting with prayer and presented the devotion.

Council members present:

- George Wied – President
- Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer
- Ruth Szymanski – Secretary
- Ron Hartmann – Vice President
- Lee Hobratschk – Elder Chairman
- Valerie Engelbrecht – Education Chairman
- Jerry Leiber – Stewardship Chairman

- Becky Tipton – Evangelism Chairman
- Susie Hartmann – Fellowship Chairman
- Bill Blume – Trustee Chairman
- Johanna Buechmann – Usher Chairman
- Pastor Bersche

Absent:

- Maggie Kent - Preschool

The Minutes from the meeting held on July 10, 2017 were presented for review and approval. A correction was made to the date of the Pumpkin Palooza. It will be held on the first Saturday of October, not the second Saturday, as reported. A motion was made by Becky Tipton, seconded by Susie Hartmann, to accept the minutes with the correction. All Council members approved and the motion passed.

Unfinished/Old Business:

- The Hall Rental Agreement will be presented to the Congregation on Sunday, August 20, 2017, to be voted on. By agreement of the Council, the vote will be by secret ballot.

Chairmen Reports

Carol Jean Hauschild – Treasurer

- The July 31, 2017, Treasurer’s report was presented. The cash balance in the General Fund is \$110,322.73. The Building Fund balance is \$51,237.04 and the Designated Funds balance is \$77,315.81. The Total of all Funds is \$238,875.58.

Jerry Leiber – Stewardship Chairman

- Jerry reminded the Council that all budget requests must be turned in. The 2018 budget will be presented to the congregation for approval at the meeting on October 29, 2017. A detailed budget will be given to the congregation for review two weeks prior to October 29.
- The church received \$250.00 in seed money from Thrivent to be used for barbecue expenses. The money will be used to replace supplies that were used for the barbecue.
- Council discussed the section in the weekly bulletin that states the dollar amount of the offering receipts that are under budget each week. Since the bulletin does not state if the amount of expenses are under/over budget, it was decided to remove this statement from the weekly bulletin. A motion to remove this information was made by George Wied,

seconded by Becky Tipton. All members approved and the motion passed.

Lee Hobratschk - Elder Chairman

- Lee informed Council that the Elders have approved for Pastor Bersche to be off on October 15, 2017 and December 31, 2017.
- The Elders have formed a committee to review their budget requests for next year.

Ron Hartmann – Vice President

- The church has received a request from a non-member to use the parking lot behind the church to set up once or twice a month to sell hand-made furniture items. Council decided not to allow non-members to use our property in this way.

Pastor Bersche

- Pastor reported that he performed the Baptism of Brynn Ainsley Blume on July 23, 2017.
- The Adult Bible Class is studying the Augsburg Confession since this is the upcoming 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

Valerie Engelbrecht – Education Chairman

- The Board of Education was in charge of the water slide that was used for the children on the Sunday of the barbecue. The slide was enjoyed by many.

Becky Tipton – Evangelism Chairman

- The Pumpkin Palooza plans continue.

Susie Hartmann – Fellowship Chairman

- Susie opened a discussion about how we can get more usage from the Church’s sign on Hwy. 36. The possibility of purchasing some banners to use for different functions was discussed.

Bill Blume – Trustee Chairman

- Bill and the Trustees will be replacing several coolers that are used every year at the barbecue. He will also be purchasing some additional shelves for the storage room upstairs. These will be used to keep items used for the barbecue, as well as other items, organized and easier to access.
- The Church will no longer use AT&T for phone service. The Trustees have found a plan with a reduced rate that does not require a contract.
- The Church has been contacted by our former cleaning crew. The contract requires us to pay the cleaning crew for

one extra month. The Church will pay one extra month at the end of this month.

Johanna Buechmann – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report

Maggie Kent – Preschool – Presented by Pastor Bersche

- Teachers began work on August 14, 2017 and parent orientation is August 24, 2017.
- New caps and gowns have been ordered for the students, as well as some new chairs, along with a new table.
- The child care conference will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2017 with Celeste May from St. John Lutheran Church in Cypress, as the guest speaker. Mary Buechmann will prepare lunch for the conference attendees.

A motion was made by Ron Hartmann to accept the Chairmen Reports as presented. Carol Jean Hauschild seconded the motion. All Council members approved the Reports and the motion passed.

New Business

- None

There being no further business, Bill Blume made a motion to adjourn. Ron Hartmann seconded the motion. All approved and the motion passed. Valerie Engelbrecht will have the devotion for the next meeting, September 11, 2017. The meeting closed with prayer by Pastor Bersche.

George Wied – President
Ruth Szymanski – Secretary



**Thank you Johnny Busse
for all you do!**

*Thank
you*



Trinity Lutheran Church, Sealy
Reformation 500th October 28, Saturday, 10
am-4 pm at St. Mark, Houston AREA D
Congregations and Schools

Contests

MUSIC: Reformation type hymns, compositions, solo, quartets, instruments, etc.

ART: Oil, Acrylic, Watercolor, Pencil, (Crayon?), Tie-Dye Material, quilting, wood, banner, using any info of Reformation and /or Scripture, especially verses pertaining to our Lutheran Doctrine.

GAMEBOARDS: Build a game board relating to Reformation (think Monopoly)

SPEECH/DEBATE: Must use any information on Reformation, especially Scriptures

POETRY, DRAMA PLAYS, SHORT STORIES

500 words for Elementary School Students, 1,000 words for High School, College/U and Lutheran Lay People. Poetry-at least three verses. Plays, dramas to be performed.

ENTRANTS: Please do let me know what you are entering, your name, address, age group, by September 25th and email or send to me so that the judges have time to work thru schedules. Judging then will begin on October 4th

Suggest: Could use a couple members from each Congregation/School-volunteer judges (yes, I know quite a few Lutherans who would love to judge, gratis). Principals or even congregations might have a contest, then enter the top two of all of the above. Contests entries in Art, Music, Compositions, and Short Stories-Poetry, Game Boards must be in first week of October. Music soloists-voice, instrumental, speech and debates will be judged Saturday, October 15, at 9:00 am at Christ Memorial Lutheran, 14200 Memorial Drive, Houston. All first, second and third place winners in art, writing (stories and poetry), game boards will be on display on October 28th. All music areas, speech, and debate winners may perform on that October 28th date. Hopefully this information will cover the basic for all entrants.

Aletha Jeske – dgjeske2@aol.com or 12751 Whittington Dr. Houston, 77077, Lutheran Hour Ambassador, Member of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church, (also with Lone Star LLL President Gary Rohloff) Chair: Contest/Composition of FORWARD500, Reformation Celebration. Call 281-752-8268 for more information.

