



Building His Body  
By Reflecting the Son

## DECEMBER 2025

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am

Sunday School  
For All Ages

### Worship Service

10:00 am Sunday

### Church Phone

979-885-2211

### Preschool Phone

979-627-7846

### Fax

979-885-7003

### Website

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

### Pastor

Kenneth Bersche  
[pastorken@tlcsealy.org](mailto:pastorken@tlcsealy.org)

### Church Secretary

Maggie Kent  
[secmaggie@tlcsealy.org](mailto:secmaggie@tlcsealy.org)

### ELDERS

James Gilliam  
Joel Grigar  
Doyle Kornegay  
Mark Romano  
Tracy Schiller  
Stephen Stuessel

**Merry  
Christmas**

# TRINITY TIDBITS

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

## Sleep in Heavenly "Peace"

I read a humorous story recently about a brother and sister. They were singing their favorite Christmas carols in church the Sunday before Christmas. The final song they sang was "Silent Night". The boy concluded the song with the lyrics, "Sleep in heavenly beans." His sister quickly corrected him. "No, no, no!" his sister insisted, "The words are not 'sleep in heavenly beans'. The song goes, 'sleep in heavenly peas.'"

"Peace" or in Hebrew "Shalom" is the typical greeting among kinsmen in Israel. Both now and even in Biblical times. The greeting is a word that conveys the idea of completeness to each other. It conveys a deeper meaning than our typical "hello" or "hi". It bestows a blessing of goodness and wholeness to one another.

The shepherds were keeping watch over their flocks of sheep at night. They were probably minding their own business. They were protecting and watching their livelihoods, when all of a sudden, out of nowhere comes a heavenly messenger. These men who most of the time were fearless, fighting off all kinds of predators, were now shaking in their boots.

The angel's greeting to them was not "peace" at first, but "fear not"! It is then that the angel proclaimed great news of the birth of a baby in Bethlehem to them. This was no ordinary greeting, and this was no ordinary baby! God comes in human flesh to save all of mankind for many, many generations: past, present, and future.

The angel's presence was multiplied by a vast heavenly host. They praised God!

"Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

"Peace!" Our completeness or our peace is fulfilled in and through Jesus Christ. We celebrate once again the birth of Jesus. We celebrate once again God becoming flesh. We celebrate the greeting that God gives to us in Jesus: Peace or Shalom! No longer are we hidden from God because of our sin. No longer are we only partially God's creation (the way He intended for us to live).

Now, God gives us His peace! He always greets us, His people with His peace in Jesus!

May the peace of Christ truly rule your hearts and minds this Christmas and everyday of your lives!

In Christ,  
*Pastor Ken*

# Happy Birthday!

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10)

12/01 Charles Ekarius	12/12 Sherri Putt	12/17 George Wied	12/27 Austin Keeton
12/01 BANE WILLEVER	12/12 DAWSON VILLALOVOZ	12/19 Noah Bryant	12/28 Reed Langton
12/02 Adolph Leschper	12/14 Ruth Szymanski	12/20 Amber Nedd	12/28 Kylie Wolf
12/04 Avery Bozeman	12/16 Linda Blume	12/22 Trine Hulstrand	12/29 Clayton Fritsch
12/04 Klarissa Smith	12/16 Adam Carrion	12/23 CRUE CARTER	12/30 Hilda Allison
12/05 Bradley Picard	12/16 Brylie Nedd	12/22 Monica Kent	12/31 AVIANNA
12/09 Bobby Barrett	12/16 Debora Waldrop	12/25 Bill Blume	DARROW
12/10 Garret Nedd	12/16 Carol Wied	12/26 Clifton Langton	12/31 Barry Wolf
12/11 Travis Pavelka			

# Happy Anniversary!

"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you."  
(1 Thessalonians 3:12)

12/07/1963 Stephen & Alice Franklin	12/10/1988 Doug & Rhonda Browne
12/07/1963 Paul & Loyce Orsak	12/18/1999 Scott & Stephanie McElroy
12/08/1973 Johnny & Susie Busse	12/19/2020 Audie & Lauren Jackson
12/09/1972 Carl & Carol Wied	

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

Thank you for your Tithes and Offerings! Offerings may be dropped off or mailed to 402 Atchison, Sealy, TX 77474. Please use your church offering envelopes requested by Stewardship to ensure that you will be given credit for your contributions.

**Don't forget to direct  
Choice Dollars®**

**Thrivent Choice Dollars, November 10, 2025, Amount of Deposit \$89.00.**  
Please take time to call 1-800-847-4836 to designate your funds to Trinity Lutheran General Fund.

## NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

### Prayers for Nursing Home and Shut Ins

"For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding."  
(Proverbs 2:6)

Joyce Meyer, Colonial Living, 1401 Eagle Lake Rd. Sealy, TX 7747  
Ellie Niemann, Colonia Living, 1401 Eagle Lake Rd. Sealy, TX 77474  
Larry Schulke – Shut-In and Hilda Allison – Shut-In



### THE BLESSING BOX PROJECT

Come join us for the next Blessing Box Project is Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church gym. For more information, please call Ruth Szymanski at 979-885-9504.

## ADVENT WEDNESDAY'S CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY

### Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

10:00 am

Morning Bible Study

11:00 am

Advent Worship

12:15 pm

Circle of Friends

Call Mary Buechmann

(Catered Meal \$10 call Mary Buechmann if you are planning to attend)

### Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am

Morning Bible Study

11:00 am

Advent Worship

12:00 pm Lite Meal after Worship

1:00 pm

Blessing Box

### Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am

Morning Bible Study

11:00 am

Advent Worship

12:00 pm Lite Meal after Worship

4:45 pm

Christmas Caroling

### Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Church Office Closed

4:00 pm or 6:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

With Holy Communion

## Church Office Hours for Christmas & New Year

Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day

Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup> Day After Christmas

Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve

Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup> New Year's Day

Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> Day After New Year's



## MAILBOX CHRISTMAS CARDS!

For all members - if you wish to send a Christmas card to a member, you may place them in the appropriate slot in the mailboxes located as you enter the glass doors. Members, please check your slots every Sunday as they tend to get very full!



## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!

The Sealy Lions Club is hosting a "Breakfast with Santa" on

Saturday, December 6, from 9 AM to 11 AM at Trinity Lutheran Church. The event will feature pancakes and opportunities for children to visit with Santa.



## COME CHRISTMAS CAROLING:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and

come caroling on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 4:45 p.m. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall to get organized and then depart to go caroling.



## PLEASE CONTINUE TO BRING DIAPERS FOR THE DIAPER BANK

for the Sealy Pregnancy Center. This is a need just like baby lotion, baby body wash, pacifiers, baby wipes, baby socks, etc.



## PRESCHOOL NEWS!

The themes for the month of December are: The Birth of Christ and Giving to Others. The celebration of Christmas is often accompanied by the giving and receiving of presents and cards. The birth of Christ is the gift of Jesus, the son of God, beginning his earthly life. Jesus is God's gift to us; He is our Savior!

The children will learn the story of Joseph, Mary and how Jesus came to be in our lives.

Children will learn how great it feels to give to others who are less fortunate.

Children will continue to learn the letters T, C, O, R, and N along with the shape STAR and color WHITE. The Bible Verse for the month is "A Savior is born; He is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11). The Bible stories for the month are:

**Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>**

"Jars of Oil"

Elish's Room"

Chapel With Pastor Bersche

Naaman is Healed

Boy King Josiah

The Brave Queen

**Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>**

"Fiery Furnace"

"Daniel and the Lions"

Chapel Time with Pastor Bersche

"Jonah the Big Fish"

"An Angel Visits Mary"

"Baby Jesus is Born"

**Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>**

"Shepherds Visit"

"Simon and Anna Meet Baby Jesus"

Chapel Time with Pastor Bersche

"The Bright Star and the Three Visitors"

Children are learning the Fifth Commandment: You shall not murder. What does this mean? We are to fear and love God so that we do not hurt our neighbor in any way but help him in all his physical needs.

**Christmas Gift Ornament Gift Exchange!**

Your child's teacher gave you a name for the class ornament gift exchange. Please bring to class by Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> .n Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.



**Flashlight Day!**

On Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> the children may bring a flashlight to preschool labeled with their name. The teachers will have fun and exciting projects for the children to use their flashlights. They will hear the story about the "Lost Sheep" and use their flashlights to find him.

**Wear White Day!** Since we are learning the color WHITE for the month, we would like the children to wear something WHITE to preschool on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Children can wear white clothes, socks, shoes, hair bows, neckties or whatever you can think of to reinforce the color WHITE!

**Candy Cane Story** – The children will enjoy the story of the Candy Cane and watch a short video about it on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Your child will learn the Legend of the Candy Cane.



The Cane is like the staff used by the shepherds in caring for sheep. Jesus is our "Good Shepherd." Red is for God's love that sent Jesus to give his life for us on the cross. The Stripes remind us of Jesus' suffering-his crown of thorns, the wounds in his hands and feet; and the cross on which he died.



**Dress as a Grinch Character**

– On Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> the children will read and watch the movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." Your child may dress as one of the characters from the movie.



**Christmas Caroling!**

The entire preschool will go on a walking field trip to Austin County State Bank and sing on Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. If you are able to make this and help chaperone the preschoolers, we would love you to come along. The bank employees will have a snack for them to enjoy.



**CUTE Ugly Sweater Day**

– The children can wear a CUTE UGLY SWEATER on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. We can all get into the spirit of wearing a cute ugly sweater given to you by someone for Christmas or a sweater you are embarrassed to wear in public. You can also make your own cute ugly sweater to wear to preschool.



**Christmas Party!**

Each child in the classroom will draw names so we can have an ornament gift exchange among the children. The ornaments can be around \$5.00. This way the children can have fun exchanging their gifts, but the gift will go straight into their bags so they can open the gift at home.

All ornaments need to be wrapped from whom and to whom and brought to the preschool by Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Please do not forget to bring your ornament gift, as we do not want a sad child without a gift.

The preschool Christmas party will take place on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am – 10:30 am. The preschool party will be a mini corn dog party. Please check the party sign up list to see how you can help by purchasing food items needed for the party. Please sign up ahead of time to help with the games at the party. Only the parents that sign up to help with the party are the ones that may attend.



**Celebrating Jesus' Birthday**

Mary Buechmann, a church member, will make a cake for the children to celebrate Jesus' birthday on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. The cake will be white with white frosting. We will all sing happy birthday to our Lord and Savior, Jesus.



**Pajama Day & Christmas Movie!**

All children Wear your pajamas ! Bring your pillow and blanket, popcorn, and a drink to

preschool. We will enjoy the morning with a Christmas movie, Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>!



**Fantasy of Lights!** This year's theme for the Fantasy of Lights is Cowboy Christmas. Please make sure your permission forms are turned into the office

or your child's teacher. Please arrive at the float around 6:30 pm. The parade will promptly begin at 7:00 pm. Thank you to all the parents who helped in decorating the float for preschool. A big thank you to Spenser and Arielle Pitcock for using their truck, trailer and other items.



**Mrs. Beth Franke Reads to the Preschoolers!**

Mrs. Franke a retired Librarian and a wife to Pastor Gil Franke, members of Trinity Lutheran Church, will read to the preschoolers on a Tuesday or Thursday on the Birth of Jesus.



**Family of the Week!** Your child is asked to

bring about five to ten pictures of their family to be placed on the preschool bulletin board in the hallway. 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 December are:

**Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Bradley Franco

**Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>**

Hayes Haechten

Please bring your pictures on Friday before your child is Family of the Week!

Christmas and New Year Holidays are:

Friday, December 19, 2025, through Tuesday, January 6, 2025.

***PRESCHOOL WILL RESUME ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026***

***Have a Safe and Blessed  
Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!  
Ms. Maggie***

**CHURCH  
COUNCIL**  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
November 10, 2025

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by John Vrablec. Joanne Dixon presented the devotion.

**Council members present:**

- John Vrablec – President
- Terry Hankins – Vice President

- James Gilliam - Elder Chairman
- Pastor Ken Bersche
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Nikki Vrablec – Board of Education Chairman
- Joanne Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Jason Carr – Trustee Chairman
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Preschool - Stephanie McElroy

**Absent:**

- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

The Minutes from the meeting held on October 13, 2025 were presented. Terry Hankins made a motion to accept the minutes. Nikki Vrablec seconded the motion. All Council members approved and the motion passed.

**Old Business:**

- No old business

**Chairmen Reports:**

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

- October Report - As of October 31, 2025, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$61,048.96. The Building Fund balance was \$45,180.47 and the Designated Fund balance was \$102,833.10. The Total of All Funds was \$202,744.12. The total contributions for October were \$22,777.00 and total expenses for October were \$29,683.99. The total contributions for the year 2025 were \$267,935.25 while the total expenses for the year were \$250,335.26.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Special contributions for the month included:
  - \$200.00 donated for Preschool
  - \$390.00 donated for HVAC

Elders - James Gilliam

- The elders met on Sunday, November 2, 2025.
- James Gilliam attended the Preschool Board meeting Sunday, November 9, 2025.

Terry Hankins – Vice President

- No report.

Pastor Bersche –

- Official Acts:
  - October 21 - Funeral for Sarah Bryant (Chris Bryant's mother)
- Bible Classes:
  - Sunday Mornings - "Nicene Creed"
  - Wednesday Mornings - "Formal and Material Principles" (a study on different faiths and religions)
  - Confirmation - The Ten Commandments and purposes of the law.
- Monthly shut-in visits continue.

Nikki Vrabec - Board of Education Chairman

- The Board of Education is looking for substitute teachers for Sunday School.

Joanne Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- The Potluck Luncheon for Mission Festival was a success.

Jason Carr – Trustee Chairman

- The elevator in the fellowship building passed inspection.
- The sewing room a/c had a leak which has been fixed.
- Trim boards on one of the ceiling beams in the fellowship building were repaired.
- A new stove/oven is in the process of being ordered for the kitchen.

David Novosad – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Preschool - Stephanie McElroy

- New officers for the 2025-2026 school year were elected.
- Treasurer's report:
  - Checking account - \$60,575.86
  - Savings account - \$63,376.98

There being no further reports, Jason Carr made the motion to accept all reports presented. Joanne Dixon seconded the motion. All Council members agreed and the motion passed.

## New Business

- The heating/AC unit for 3 upstairs rooms in the fellowship building has not been working for quite some time. After council discussion and review of options, Terry Hankins made a motion to use \$5,000.00 from the memorial fund and \$4,600.00 from the HVAC fund to purchase a new heating/ac unit. James Gilliam seconded the motion. All Council members agreed and the motion passed.
- Council discussed sponsoring Trinity Lutheran youth interested in attending Camp Lone Star in the summer. Any child interested in attending camp should contact the church office.
- After brief discussion, Ruth Szymanski made a motion for Trinity to participate in the Christmas Cookie Baking Supply Drive for the Sealy Christian Food Pantry. Terry Hankins seconded the motion. All Council members agreed and the motion passed.

There being no further business, Terry Hankins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Novosad seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned, and Pastor Bersche led the Council in the Lord's Prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. and Nikki Vrabec will have the devotion.

John Vrabec - President  
Kimberly Kornegay - Secretary