



Building His Body By
Reflecting the Son

**October
2026**

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

Pastor

Kenneth Bersche
pastorken@tlcsealy.org

Church Secretary

Maggie Kent
secmaggie@tlcsealy.org

ELDERS

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



**Worship and Mission
Festival Sunday
Potluck
Sunday, October 11th**

TRINITY TIDBITS

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

From the Desk of the

PASTOR Walking the Path

Imagine yourself walking down a stone path. You cannot see the end of the road nor do you even know where it leads. You just keep walking down that path, steady and strong. You look to your right and you gaze upon the fence posts bearing barbed wire. You glance to the other side seeing only a dense, green, lush forest.

You don't dare climb over the fence because of it's height and because it looks so dangerous. But you also don't walk to your left, for there in that dense forest, lies a good place to get lost. So, you keep walking and walking.

The problem is that on the other side of the fence is a place where you can rest and relax. The problem is that on the other side of the trees lies a garden filled with all kinds of fruits and vegetables. The problem is that the road you are on leads only to a steep cliff. If you continue walking down the beaten path, the end is just that, the end, waiting at the bottom of a long, long fall.

You keep walking down the path that seems so safe but danger lurks around the corner. That's when you go around a curve and there it is, smack dab in the middle of the path: a tree. It stands there, growing out of the pavement, right in the middle of the road. The tree is in the way but as you journey around it, you notice the rest on one side and as you turn around, you see the food on the other side as well. It is now apparent to you that if you get off the path of destruction that seems so smooth, there lies peace and sustenance.

For many, they continue the walk to their eternal death. What seems like a great journey end in tragedy. But for you, the tree of the cross graciously gets in the way. The death of Jesus pays for our wicked way. Jesus the Good Shepherd takes over, and He leads us to streams of life and salvation.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 2:24-25

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)

10/01 Lorrene Schiller	10/05 Cade Langton	10/15 Beth Franke	10/25 Danny Darrow
10/02 Gilbert Franke	10/05 Jill Sullivan	10/18 Maggie Kent	10/25 Jeannette Simmons
10/03 Stephen Franklin	10/07 MASON DZIADEK	10/18 TYLER RAMON	10/27 Kelly Kruzel
10/03 Rachel Villalovoz	10/08 Barbara Havemann	10/18 WADE WILKERSON	10/28 DESTIN STEINHAUSER
10/04 Joel Grigar	10/09 Ronnie Thrasher	10/18 WYATT WILKERSON	10/29 Pastor Ken Bersche
10/04 Nathan Romano	10/12 Ursula Kutra	10/20 Vera Schmidt	10/29 Timothy Ramon
10/04 Larry Schulke	10/12 April Schmidt	10/20 BRANTLEE TAYLOR	10/31 Robert Herridge
10/04 Dorthy Sliva	10/13 WILLIAM FULLEN	10/21 Dianne Clover	10/31 Betty Remmert
10/05 MICAH KRUZEL	10/14 Doris Schaffner	10/24 Bryant Schiller	10/31 Patricia Rother

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)

10/04/1997 Bryant & Melinda Schiller
10/16/1993 Mark & Patsy Romano

10/20/2011 Brett & Brittany Carter
10/31/2021 Alex and Meagan Alex Castro

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.

thrivent®

CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent Choice Dollars August 13, 2026
Amount of Deposit is \$388.00. Please call 1-800-847-4836 and 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 - Avir Nursing, 1401 Eagle Lake Rd. Sealy, TX 77474

Lorrene Schiller - Avir Nursing, 1401 Eagle Lake Rd. Sealy, TX 7747

Larry Schulke Kruse Village, 1700 East Stone Street, Brenham TX 77833

Joyce Amthor

Hilda Allison – Shut-In

Lee Allen Palm – Shut-In

Geraldine Stuessel – Shut-In

Good and loving God, be with our nursing home and shut-ins always, and most especially with those whose minds and bodies are in special need of care. Bless the caregivers who watch closely over them to be patient with them and love them. In Jesus Name. Amen

The Blessing Box

NEXT Blessing Box Group will meet on
Wednesday, October 14, 2026.

The Ladies Aid

The Next Ladies Aid Meeting is
Thursday, October 1, 2026



Trinity Lutheran Preschool expresses from the bottom of our hearts a warm thank you to LWML for the welcoming luncheon served to the preschool staff.

Thank you, cards were written for the appreciation, for the amazing lunch and how we all felt very special.

From the bottom of our hearts,
Preschool Staff

Maggie Kent, Robin Jacobson,
Tracy Semmler, Bethany Grochmall,
Katie Kofman and Toni Jurasek



Trinity Lutheran Preschool says thank you Mary Buechmann for serving lunch to the preschool staff. But mainly being part of this preschool program since I have been here. You are behind the scenes of many areas in the church. I have been blessed by having you in my pathway in preschool and life.

The Preschool Staff

Maggie Kent, Robin Jacobson,
Tracy Semmler, Bethany Grochmall,
Katie Kofman and Toni Jurasek



Trinity Lutheran Preschool says thank you to Becky Tipton for our Starbucks special drinks for the whole preschool staff. This was such a delight!

Preschool Staff

Maggie Kent, Robin Jacobson,
Tracy Semmler, Bethany Grochmall,
Katie Kofman and Toni Jurasek



Thank you to our preschool board for a special treat each day for the first week when preschool staff returned to work. Thank you for making us feel special.

Preschool Staff

Maggie Kent, Robin Jacobson,
Tracy Semmler, Bethany Grochmall,
Katie Kofman and Toni Jurasek



Worship and Mission Festival Sunday Potluck

Mission Festival is in two weeks on Sunday, October 11th. Our guest speaker is Rev. Curtiss Lanham. He is the Chaplin for Fort Bend Emergency Services. Please attend worship and a potluck meal will follow.

**Begin Your Sunday's This Fall
With Morning Prayer**

8:30 am Fellowship

9:00 am Adult Bible Class

**9:00 am Sunday School
For All Ages**

10:00 am Worship



**Come and Join Us for
Sunday School for
All Ages!**

Ms. Maggie - Pre-K Through 2nd Grade
Ms. Nikki - Third Grade Through 5th Grade
Ms. Patricia – Jr. High & High School
Ms. Lauren – Jr. High – High School in
November
Pastor Ken Bersche - Adult Bible Study



FALL BACK! November 1st ends daylight savings time at 2 am. Please set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night before you go to bed to be ready for Sunday morning to attend church.



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS LUNCHEON is Wednesday, October 7, 2026! The sign-up sheet in the narthex on the bulletin board. Come and enjoy the fellowship! And remember that desserts are always welcome. Contact Mary Buechmann with questions 979-885-2730 or cell 281-728-0973.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Will take place after church on Sunday, October 26, 2025. Budget sheets are in the narthex.

Please pick one up to view.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR SERVING AT TRINITY

Election of Officers will be held on October 25th. There are several offices that are up for re-election. If you are interested in serving in one of the following positions, please contact a Church Council member.

Trustee, Usher and Secretary

The only restriction is that you have been a member of Trinity for at least one year. Several of the current Officers are eligible to run for another two-year term and are willing to do so, but to be transparent, we want to make this information available to anyone interested. Contact any Church Council member if you have any questions.

John Vrabec/Terry Hankins

Ruth Szymanski/Joann Dixon

David Novosad/Kimberly Kornegay

James Gilliam/George Wied

Janice Wied/Nikki Vrabec

PRESCHOOL PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for a great successful turnout at the Annual Preschool Pancake Breakfast. Your presence made it truly special. Preschool brought in \$157.00 after expenses. The proceeds from this event will go towards new teacher FBI Background Checks and Fingerprinting.

God's Blessings, Ms. Maggie



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.



THE SEALY CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY

Please help by collecting plastic bags that can be used to bag canned items. If you would, please save your re-usable shopping bags and bring them to the church to be used to bag canned goods. There is a container next to the elevator to place them into.



Reminder!
Worship and Mission
Festival Sunday Potluck
Sunday, October 11th



Dedicated to Texas nurse education since 1951

**Lutheran Women in
Mission Texas District
2026-2028**

**Mission Grant Description and Prayer
Seminarian Scholarships for Texas
Students — \$50,000**

Thanks to the support of the Lutheran Women in Mission, Texas District, seminary students have benefited from these scholarships for many years. They are grateful to be designated as recipients for this and future biennia. It is an honor to serve the Lord in mission and ministry alongside the women and supporters of Lutheran Women in Mission. Christ commanded His followers to make disciples of all nations, and pastors graduating from LCMS seminaries continue that mission by sharing the Gospel with all people. The encouragement these scholarships provide is immeasurable. Knowing that the church stands behind those preparing for ministry strengthens each student. This mission grant helps offset costs, fund scholarships, and reduce financial burdens for Texas District seminarians.

Gracious Lord, we bring before You the seminary students of the Texas District, asking You to strengthen their faith, deepen their wisdom, and sustain their calling. Use this mission grant to meet their financial, spiritual, and personal needs so they may prepare joyfully for lives of service. Bless their studies, guide their steps, and surround them with Your steadfast love as they learn to shepherd Your people. May this support equip them to proclaim Christ with courage and compassion. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Widow's Mite



Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich

people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything — all she had to live on" (Mark 12:41–43).



LWML Mite Boxes

Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of

"mites" — offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national mission grants and implement the LWML program.

For the 2023-2025 biennium, the national organization of LWML disbursed funds of \$2,471,798.12 to 31 mission grants!

For the 2024-2026 biennium, the Texas district organization of LWML mission grant goal is \$272,314.00 to be disbursed to 14 mission grants in Texas.

Mite Boxes are distributed to every woman in local LWML groups, including the women in our TLWM here at Trinity Lutheran Church, and Mite Boxes are available to each member of LCMS congregations. Our local mites are submitted to our Texas district financial officer and become part of those amazing numbers that fund district and national mission grants. If you want to help with LWML fund mission grants, you may!



Preschool Open House

will take place on Thursday, October 22nd 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Everyone is

invited to attend this event, including the congregation. Parents you may bring grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends, and family. This is a great time for everyone to come together and see some of the work the children have completed and for the families and friends to visit classrooms and teachers. Here are my Open House Night suggestions for parents from a teacher's point of view. Go early. This evening is somewhat social, and you might want time to chat with other parents. The preschool teachers and their classrooms are on display. Make this a positive experience for your child and everyone.



Western Day! On Tuesday, October 6th, the children may dress in western clothes for Western Day to promote Austin County Fair. Each child may dress in western jeans, boots, shirts, belts, hats, and a bandana. If your child decides to wear spurs, this is fine, except if they are hurting another child, then the spurs will be removed. Let's get out our cowboy hats and boots!



Gun Safety! On Friday, October 23rd, Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will come to the preschool to talk to the children about Gun Safety. Mr. Gary, as the children call him, knows that a lot of children go hunting with their dads and grandpas and would like to keep the little ones safe. Mr. Gary will also explain to the children the importance of what to do if you find a gun, for example, at a friend's house. What do you do with a gun? Mr. Gary will also talk about how to use play guns and not to point guns at others. Let's see what the children can learn during Gun Safety!



Wear Blue Day! Since we are learning blue for the month, we would like the children to wear something BLUE to preschool on Wednesday, October 14th. Children can wear blue clothes, socks, shoes, hair bows, neckties or whatever you can think of to reinforce blue!



Fire Prevention! The Sealy Fire Department will come to the preschool on Friday, October 16th at 9:30 am. They will teach the children to stop, drop and roll in case of a fire. Children will enjoy the morning with the Sealy Fire Department as they learn about Fire Safety, since October is Fire Prevention Month. One of the important things that the firemen will teach the children is not to be afraid of them or hide from them in case they are in a burning house. Firemen are there to help and rescue them even though their equipment may be scary. The firemen will also teach the children how important an escape route is for the

entire family and the importance of smoke detectors. This is an important lesson, please try to have your child at school.



Harvest Party! The preschool Harvest Party will be on Wednesday, October 28th 9:30 am-10:30 am. We would like the children to come dressed as one of Noah Ark's animals. We have in the past had great and unique costumes, such as ladybugs, puppy dogs, sheep, kitty cats, cows, and lots more. There are so many simple ways to dress your child like an animal without spending a lot of money.

There will be a sign-up list for refreshments and games. We need parents to help supervise the children with games that the preschool provides. I will need help with setting up, tearing down, wiping tables and chairs, sweeping, and cleaning the kitchen after the party.

If you can help with games or refreshments, please place your name on the sign-up list. Only parents that sign up to help with the party by supervising activity stations can attend. Whoever signs up first will be able to come and help with the party. We will have more parties throughout the year for you to participate.



Mrs. Beth Franke, a retired Librarian, will come to preschool to read to the children and date will be given later.



Carving Pumpkin Day We will carve pumpkins on Friday, October 30th. The preschoolers will have a blast to help clean out the pumpkin and listen how God uses a pumpkin. Not only does God wash us clean from the outside, but he also removes our sin, and in doing that we are washed clean and made new from the inside out. This is a new creation, a jack-o-lantern, with a joy-filled face. Jesus does that with us.



Themes for the month of October are Family, Fire, Fall, Leaves, Harvest and Pumpkins. The color for the month is BLUE, the shapes are circle and rectangle, and the children will continue to learn the letters i, m, f, s, a, and d. We teach the children the sounds and names of these letters. Using picture boxes or object boxes helps the children to recognize the name and sounds to the first batch of letters to begin putting silly words together. Children will continue learning go-togethers, matching, categorizing etc.



Social Focus for the preschoolers will be thankful that God loves and protects us our family and friends. Family and God and how to be obedient to our parents, loving each other unconditionally, contributing to the household and how these values reflect God's values for people. Following directions is one of the most important social skills that children develop. Be it in the

classroom, at home with the family or on the sporting field, a child who can listen, understand, and then follow instructions and directions will go a long way.

Bible Stories for the month of October are:

<u>Monday, October 5th-9th</u> A Baby in a Basket pg. 92 Wed/Thru/Fri-Closed <u>Monday Oct. 12th-16th</u> The Burning Bush pg. 98 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Ten Plagues pg. 104 	<u>Monday Oct. 19th-23rd</u> The Red Sea pg. 111 Food From Heaven pg. 116 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Ten Commandments pg. 120 Twelve Spies pg. 124 Joshua and the Spies pg. 128 <u>Monday Oct. 26th – 30th</u> The Battle of Jericho pg. 132 Deborah Leads the Way pg. 136 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Gideon's Battle pg. 140 Hannah's Prayer pg. 156
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Family Family of the Week! Family of the week is a program that aids children in being able to share their family with everyone at preschool and church. Each week a family will be chosen as 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 of October are:

<u>Monday, October 5th-9th</u> (FAIR) No Family <u>Monday Oct. 12th-16th</u> Nathanael Cerna	<u>Monday Oct. 19th-23rd</u> Lavender Einkauf <u>Monday Oct. 26th-30th</u> Ridge Fernandez
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 **Chapel Time** Children have been learning the First Commandment and this month we are adding the Second Commandment: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks. They will continue The Lord's prayer. The monthly Bible verse is "God is Love." (1 John 4:8)

 **Reinforcing the Rules at Trinity!** Thank you to all the parents in helping reinforce the rules of the preschool. Thank you for helping children learn the consequences of their actions and promote self-discipline. Thank you for being consistent, which is

the most major and effective way of discipline which is guidance. Thank you for helping your child understand the circumstances of inappropriate and appropriate behavior.

 **Reminder Preschool is closed due to the Austin County Fair and Rodeo, Wed. Thurs. and Fri. 7th 8th 9th and 12th of October.**

God's Blessings, Ms. Maggie

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES September 14, 2026

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

Council members present:

- Jason Carr – President
- Terry Hankins – Vice President
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- James Gilliam - Elder Chairman
- Pastor Ken Bersche
- Nikki Vrablec – Board of Education Chairman
- Karina Carr – Fellowship Outreach Chairman & Preschool
- John Vrablec – Trustee Chairman
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Preschool - Karina Carr

Absent:

- None

The Minutes from the meeting held on August 10, 2026, 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:

- None

Chairmen Reports:

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

- August Report - As of August 31, 2026, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$50,847.94. The Building Fund balance was \$46,451.70 and the Designated Fund balance was \$105,681.60. The Total of All Funds was \$202,981.24. The total contributions for August were \$36,207.60 and total expenses for August were

\$28,495.67. The total contributions for the year 2026 were \$202,864.41 while the total expenses for the year were \$213,025.38.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Special contributions for the month included:
 - \$195.00 for HVAC.
 - \$200.00 for Ladies Aid.
 - \$275.00 from Memorials.

Elders - James Gilliam

- The Elder's approved Pastor's mileage.

Terry Hankins – Vice President

- Nothing to report.

Pastor Bersche –

- Monthly shut-in and recovering visits continue for 15 members.
- Bible Classes:
 - Sunday Morning Bible Class - The Life of Saint Paul the Apostle
 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study - The Hymnal of the Old Testament (Psalms)
 - Confirmation began on September 2nd and will be learning about the Apostles' Creed.
- Official Acts:
 - August 30 - Baptism of Teagan Nicole Reibenstein

Nikki Vrablec - Board of Education Chairman

- Received approval for a Board of Education laptop. One will be purchased soon.
- Sunday School lessons will be this week and ready for Sunday.
- Board of Education meetings have been moved to the 2nd Sunday of the month immediately after church. Meetings will be held in the upstairs youth room.

Karina Carr – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- The Ice Cream Social after church on Rally Day was a success with 50-60 people in attendance.
- Mission Festival Potluck is scheduled for October 11.

John Vrablec – Trustee Chairman

- Sealy Plumbing came and fixed some issues in our restrooms.

- OGH worked on the A/C in the Sanctuary in July but are still looking for more leaks in the units.

David Novosad – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Karina Carr - Preschool

- No report because they did not meet before the Church Council meeting this month.

There being no further reports, Nikki Vrablec made the motion to accept all reports presented. Terry Hankins seconded the motion. All Council members agreed and the motion passed.

New Business

- Media is working on upgrading the computer in the media booth.
- Church Council voted on the proposed 2027 budget. Nikki Vrablec made a motion to approve the budget. James Gilliam seconded the motion. All Council members agreed and the motion passed.

There being no further business, Nikki Vrablec made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry Hankins seconded the motion. All Council members agreed and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. and Nikki Vrablec will have the devotion. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Jason Carr - President

Kimberly Kornegay - Secretary

Ready For Fall!

