

Building His Body By Reflecting the Son Website <u>www.tlcsealy.org</u>



TRINITY TIDBITS

A monthly newsletter for the people of Trinity Lutheran Church of Sealy, Texas Sermon Transcripts are available in the church office.

Church Council

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES June 14, 2021

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by President Terry Hankins. Janice Wied presented the devotion.

Council members present:

- Terry Hankins President
- Linda Blume Treasurer
- Kimberly Kornegay Secretary
- Janice Wied Stewardship Chairman
- Casey Picard Vice President
- Pastor Bersche
- Barry Wolf Elder Chairman
- George Wied Usher Chairman
- Noah Hankins Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Patricia Rother for Valerie Bryant Christian Growth Chairman

Absent:

Cheryl Steinhauser – Preschool Liaison

The Minutes from the meeting held on May 10, 2021 were presented for review and approval. Janice Wied made a motion to accept the minutes. Casey Picard seconded the motion. All Council members approved and the motion passed.

Unfinished/Old Business:

• An update was given regarding the March utility bill payment plan. There was an error in the meter reading, so Trinity now has a \$350.15 credit balance. No more monthly payments will be made for the March bill.

Chairmen Reports:

Linda Blume - Treasurer

- Linda presented the May 31, 2021, Treasurer's Report. As of May 31, 2021, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$49,753.16. The Building Fund balance was \$59,191.86 and the Designated Fund balance was \$110,558.24. The Total of All Funds was \$219,503.26. The total contributions for May were \$42,942.99 and total
- expenses for May were \$40,615,77. The total contributions for the year 2021 were \$97,160.13 while the total expenses for the year were \$108,742.54.

Janice Wied - Stewardship Chairman

• Nothing to present.

Barry Wolf - Elder Chairman

- June 6 attendance 81
- June 13 attendance 92
- During communion the elders and pastor will sanitize hands but mask wearing will be optional.
- Elders are looking for a Mission Festival speaker.
- Offering plates will continue to be in the narthex to be used as everyone enters the church.
- Communication/Attendance cards should be filled out and placed on the pews to be picked up after the church service.

Casey Picard - Vice President

Nothing to report.

Pastor Bersche

- Pastor continues to visit member shut-ins and made 2 bereavement visits this past month.
- Jerry Schroeder transferred his membership from Trinity Lutheran Sealy.
- Pastor attended the Texas District Convention Thursday, June 10 but has to return early for a funeral.
- Wednesday morning Bible study will resume on September 8.
- There will be a Confirmation Parent meeting on August 29.
- New communication/attendance cards are back in the pew again.
- The Lord's Supper is now back to normal.
- Children are invited back up to the front of the church for the Children's Message each Sunday.
- Pastor will be greeting members again in the narthex after every service.
- Maggie will be on vacation July 5-9.
- Pastor will be on vacation July 24-31.

Patricia Rother for Valerie Bryant - Christian Growth Chairman

- There will be a Youth Lock-in at the church Friday, August 6. The times for the lock-in are 9 p.m. 8 a.m.
- The 2022 National Youth Gathering will be held in Houston next July. Fundraisers will begin soon.
- Sunday School will begin again on Sunday, September 10.
- Sunday School teachers are needed. If you would like to help, please contact Valerie Bryant.

Noah Hankins - Fellowship Outreach Chairman

• Fellowship will continue on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed. If you would like to help, please contact Noah Hankins.

Trustee Chairman - Vacant

George Wied – Usher Chairman

Usher schedule is working.

• We are looking into locating/purchasing badges for the ushers and elders to wear on Sunday mornings so they can be identified by anyone in the congregation needing assistance.

Cheryl Steinhauser – Preschool

Nothing to report.

There being no further reports, Noah Hankins made the motion to accept all reports. George Wied seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.

New Business

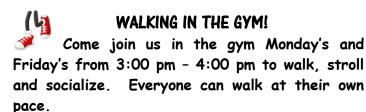
- The new carpet sample and quote for installation obtained by the Carpet Committee were presented to Church Council. George Wied made the motion to accept the carpet sample and quote. Casey Picard seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.
- Pew Cleaning quotes were obtained from 3 different businesses. After Council discussion, Noah Hankins made a motion to accept the quote from Stanley Steamer. George Wied seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.
- The Lions Club has requested to rent the fellowship hall for a domino tournament on August 21. George Wied made a motion to allow the Lions Club to rent the hall. Casey Picard seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.
- Maggie requested to have a bake sale on Friday, November 19 to benefit Trinity Lutheran Preschool. Noah Hankins made the
 motion to accept the request for the bake sale. George Wied seconded the motion. Council members agreed and the motion
 passed.
- Sunday, July 11 Trinity will host a New Member Potluck Luncheon. The chicken/meat will be provided but members are asked to bring a side or dessert. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.
- Noah requested permission to research having a meal fundraiser in place of the church BBQ this year. Casey Picard made a motion to begin researching a replacement fundraiser. Kimberly Kornegay seconded the motion. Council members agreed and the motion passed.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, July 12 at 6:00 p.m. and George Wied will have the devotion. There being no further business, George Wied made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Barry Wolf seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned. Pastor closed by leading the Council in the Lord's Prayer.



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

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HELP CALL

MAGGIE 979-885-2211 or email

at <u>secmaggie@ticsealy.org</u> Sunday, July 18th 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Sign up Online! Go to giveblood.org and search mobile drives, the date 07/18/21 and sponsor code: 1881. SPREAD THE WORD! Encourage friends and families to donate with you! Thank you in Advance, Ms. Maggie

New Members Luncheon

Please join us and welcome our new members to our family of faith. This will take place Sunday, July 11th! The Congregational Fellowship Outreach Committee will have fried chicken and we would like members to bring a side of veggies, fruits, or desserts.

MAKE SURE YOUR FOOD IS COOKED AND READY TO SERVE!

New Members do not bring anything but yourself and your families. On the sign-up sheet for the new members, please let us know how many of your family members are attending.

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for members to list what food items they would like to bring to the luncheon. You may call the church office and let Ms. Maggie know you are attending and how many people and what you are bringing or contact me, Noah Hankins at 281-793-3722 and leave a message if I cannot get to my phone.

Please note...everyone please come to the luncheon even if you are not bringing a side. This is a great time to visit and enjoy ourselves with the new members. New Members are:

Wayne and Patricia Grigar Robert and Carolyn Rash Elizabeth Machala Barbara Hanvey R. D. and Vera Schmidt Ronnie, April, Andrew and Trey Schmidt Steven and Bitsy Cobb New Confirmands: Cadie Neu Jacie Kainer Jade Barton Lillian Villalovoz Avery Grigar Ryanne Meyer Noah Bryant Zachary Orsak

Ladies Aid Society

The Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid met on Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Antoinette Romano and opened with prayer. There were 7 members present. Two new members were welcomed by Antoinette. Carol Schuknecht presented the Devotion, followed by prayer. The Minutes from the last meeting, along with the Treasurer's Report, were read by Ruth Szymanski. A motion was made and seconded, to approve both reports. All members agreed and the motion passed. Carol Schuknecht reported on all the cards that she has mailed on behalf of the Ladies Aid. Old Business:

 Antoinette reported that gifts were given to all Confirmands and Graduates that are members of Trinity.

New Business:

- Antoinette reminded members that dues are \$1.00 a month and that there is a box to place Mites in. The money collected from Mites is used to make charitable donations.
- There was a discussion about how to serve the lunch that the ladies host after a church member's funeral service. This lunch had been discontinued due to the pandemic, but the ladies will begin serving again, with a few minor changes.
- Susie Hartmann has asked to step down from her position of Secretary. After discussion, it was decided that Ruth Szymanski will continue as Secretary/Treasurer until the next officer elections.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded, to adjourn. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer and light refreshments were served. There will be no hostesses at the August meeting, as the members will enjoy lunch together after the meeting.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY NEED OF JUICE BOXES & SNACKS!

Trinity Lutheran Church Little Free Pantry



Since kids are out of school for the summer Trinity's Little Free Pantry can use your assistants with juice boxes and snacks. If you would like to assist by donating items, just place them in the container in the Narthex.

If would like to help by donating items such as: non-perishable food items, toiletries, water, boxed juice, etc. would be greatly appreciated! Please consider donating if you can. Thank you! Noah Hankins

SNACKS FOR KIDS ARE NEEDED FOR THE LITTLE PANTRY!

STILL NOT TOO LATE!

Schedules & Volunteers for Sunday Mornings!



Please take time to call and begin serving! We need Sunday morning volunteers for varies duties on Sunday mornings. You are welcome to serve on more than one list. Please contact this person if you would like to serve as:

<u>Greeters</u> – Mary Buechmann 979-885-2730 or 281-728-0973 leave a message.

Ushers – George Wied 979-865-5357 and leave a message.

<u>Video</u> – Joel Grigar 979-885-1415 or 832-684-6210 and leave a message.

Media – Pam Epperly 979-885-6993 and leave a message.

<u>Bell Choir</u> – Pam Epperly 979-885-6993 leave a message.

<u>Choir</u> – Barbara Havemann 979-478-7339 and leave a message.

<u>Congregational Fellowship Outreach</u> – Noah Hankins 281-793-3722 leave message



Lutheran Witness Subscription Renewals are beginning. If you are interested in receiving the subscription the cost is \$22.00 through

Concordia Publishing House without The Texas Messenger. Or you can request and pay the church to purchase the subscription for \$13.00, this includes the Texas Messenger. Please contact Maggie Kent in the church office if you are interested in receiving the Lutheran Witness through the church and fill out the form along with the payment to Trinity Lutheran Church. Forms are inside your Sunday's News and Notes and this month's Newsletter. If you are already receiving it and wish to continue, please bring your subscription payment to the church office for another year or place in the offering plate.



Please, please contact the church office if you can help with transporting church members to and from doctor appointments. No one at this time has contacted the office.



Morning Fellowship Is Back!

Before Adult Bible Study, we enjoy morning fellowship. Morning Fellowship is at 8:30 am to

sit down and enjoy each other drinking coffee and eating a light breakfast. Adult Bible Class starts promptly at 9:00 am. Please come and join us for the Fellowship and Bible Study each Sunday morning.

If you would like to help with morning fellowship, please contact me (Noah Hankins) at 281-793-3722 to be placed on the schedule to help.



CAMP LONE STAR'S ANNUAL BARBECUE & AUCTION FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, JULY 25TH 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM

The Annual Camp Lone Star BBQ and Auction will be held this year on Sunday, July 25th – always the last Sunday in July. Activities begin at 10:30 a.m. with music by Camp Lone Star Summer Counselors. The worship message will be given by Rev. Ryan Neuhaus, from Concordia Lutheran High School in Tomball. Immediately after the service a delicious barbecue meal is served. The benefit live auction is held in the Koop Activity Center from 1 - 3 pm. Silent auction tables will offer bidding opportunities as well. Come out for this reunion of Camp Lone Star "family" and show your support! (For more information, a map to camp, or to donate an item to the auction, call 979-968-1657.)

Where can you get a day of Christian family fun, worship, a great barbecue meal, and help support a vital ministry to youth and adults? Camp Lone Star is your answer! The big day is Sunday, July 25th. The worship speaker this year is Rev. Ryan Neuhaus. The outdoor worship starts at 10:30 a.m. with the delicious barbecue meal following. An annual entertaining benefit live auction will be held in the air-conditioned Koop Center from 1 - 3 pm. A silent auction will be held, too, for those more-timid bidders! Share in the ministry, celebration, and fellowship of Lutheran Outdoors Ministry of Texas. We will see you there! (For more information, a map to camp, or to donate an item to the auction, call 979-968-1657.)

The Camp Lone Star Barbecue and Auction is just around the corner! Plan to attend this reunion and open house celebration on Sunday, July 25th. Activities kick off with special music by the Camp Lone Star Summer Counselors at 10:30 a.m. and then an outdoor service at 11 a.m. with Rev. Ryan Neuhaus, from Concordia Lutheran High School, preaching. A delicious barbecue meal is served following the service. Come and be a part of this ministry! The everpopular FUNd-raiser live auction is held in the air-conditioned Koop Center from 1 - 3 pm. Silent auction tables will also offer a fun way to support the camp. There is bound to be at least one item just for you – it's for a good cause! All are invited! (For more information, a map to camp, or to donate an item to the auction, call 979-968-1657.)

"Chosen" is the theme for the CLS programs this year, emphasizing to boldly follow Christ and to shine his light to all. Camp Lone Star will celebrate the gifts of our Lord to outdoors ministry on Sunday, July 25th at the Annual Camp Lone Star Barbecue. Rev. Ryan Neuhaus will give the message at the outdoor worship at 11 am. Special preservice music by the Summer Counselors will begin at 10:30 a.m. The famous barbecue meal will follow the worship. You'll want to make it a day for the whole family and check out the Benefit Live Auction in the Koop Center from 1-3 pm and the Silent Auction tables which feature items from tickets to sporting events to one-of-a-kind treasures. Show your support for this vital ministry and join in on "family" reunion and open house! (For more information, a map to camp, or to donate an item to the auction, call 979-968-1657.)

BBQ worship leader Ryan Neuhaus graduated from Texas A&M University, College Station, TX in 1999. He then attended and graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary in St. Louis, MO with a Master of Divinity in 2005. Neuhaus' first call was to be a missionary at large in Buda, Texas with his best friend, Rev. Paul Goeke. In Buda, these two men worked full-time in the community while planting The Well Lutheran Church. While being a pastor at The Well, Neuhaus worked at Home Depot for a year and then at a position in the Hays Consolidated School District.

While at Hays, Neuhaus taught Life Skills for a year, Economics and Government for three, and spent two years teaching atrisk elementary students social and leadership skills. Neuhaus joined Concordia Lutheran High School in the summer of 2012. Prior to entering full-time ministry, Ryan served at Camp Lone Star as a summer staff member for 5 years. Reflecting on his experience, Ryan states, "Watching Jesus transform heads of campers and experiencing open and honest community with the staff deepened my faith and love of Jesus." Ryan met his wife, Jill, at Camp Lone Star and together have three children, Jane, Adele, and Vincent.



I have been experiencing many emotions since March of 2020 when Covid hit the world. I have cried, laughed, been depressed, and had enormous anger with the changes that have been taking place between Elders', Church Council and Preschool. I was upset enough that I went looking to find another job. I thought to myself why should I work in God's house where we are supposed to love and support one another, and I felt that was not happening? BUT I WAS WRONG!

Working for Trinity Lutheran Preschool and Church is a passion. My anger was so overwhelmed I became someone that really was not me. I prayed and prayed and finally God gave me peace. The peace I should have had years ago with the Elders', Church Council and Preschool of uniting together.

I as director of the preschool program strayed away from the Preschool Bylaws and the Constitution of

Trinity and gave myself free reign and ran the program my own way with my preschool board members. Having free reign for so many years, it was extremely hard for me to abide with the rules of the Church Constitution and Preschool Bylaws that was brought to my attention by President, Terry Hankins, and Head Elder, Barry Wolf.

President of Church Council, Terry Hankins, Head Elder, Barry Wolf, Pastor Bersche, Preschool Board and I are going back to the Constitution and Preschool Bylaws of Trinity the way it should have been from the beginning. I guess it was easy to stray away without even knowing I was doing so with different Pastors, Council Members, Elders and Preschool Board Members changing throughout the years.

Whatever changes take place with officers, it is my job to make sure every decision is based on the Church Constitution and Preschool Bylaws. Before anyone says, "do what you want Maggie, we trust you" I will tell them I have to follow the Constitution and Bylaws of Trinity Lutheran Preschool and we will report to you for approval.

As much as I do not like changes and as preschool director throughout the years, I was the one that made changes on my own. Thank you, Terry Hankins, Barry Wolf, Pastor Bersche and Preschool Board Members for bringing the preschool program back on track with Trinity Lutheran Church's Constitution and Preschool Bylaws. Now you know I may be a (little) stubborn, and the fact is, I was wrong and the anger I felt should never have been in the first place, because I was the one that strayed away.

I felt it is my job to inform the congregation that I was wrong, and I apologize. Thank you for understanding and supporting the preschool program. I am excited for Trinity Lutheran Preschool to begin this fall and continue my passion as preschool director and church secretary and to teach the love of Jesus.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

(1 John 1:9) God's Blessings, Maggie Kent

