



Building His Body By
Reflecting the Son



2021

**WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

9:00 am Bible Study

**Worship Services:
10:00 am Sunday**

**Church Phone:
979-885-2211
Fax 979-885-7003**

**Preschool Phone
979-627-7846**

**Website
www.tlcsealy.org**

**Pastor:
Kenneth Bersche
Pastorken@tlcsealy.org
979-885-2211**

**Maggie Kent, Office
Secretary**

ELDERS:

**Lowell Coody
Joel Grigar
Mark Romano
Doyle Kornegay
Tracy Schiller
Johnnie Sodolak
Stephen Stuessel
Barry Wolf**

TRINITY TIDBITS

DECEMBER 2021

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

Cutting through the Distractions



It is a delicate task for us Christians this time of year to cut through all the distractions. We are most especially distracted during this Advent/Christmas season by three big distractions which are a part of our American

Christmas Culture: commercialism, consumerism, and sentimentality. There are so many activities and events that are begging for our time which makes us lose sight of what is important. There are so many people in our lives for whom we must buy gifts. There are so many emotions from the past and present that flood our hearts. These often create conflicting feelings and thoughts about what Christmas and Advent are all about.

What is the reason for the season? We may say without a doubt, that it is Jesus and in the same breath neglect to worship him because we are too busy, or we are shopping, or we just don't want to bring back sentimental memories. How will Christ be heard in our lives in the midst of all the distractions?

Will we be able to share the message of Christmas with others so that it will cut through the cultural layers that bury us under overcrowded schedules, piles of credit card bills, and entertaining alternatives to the true meaning of Christmas? How can we best witness our faith in Jesus during these days of Advent and Christmas? If we cannot remain centered on Jesus now, what will become of our Christmas season but a relief that all the commotion is over so that we can relax and party in the New Year.

As part of Advent, we need to prepare our hearts spiritually so that we are not distracted and burned out when the season is all over. We really need the strength that comes to us through our worship and our service together as Christians. Failing to worship our Lord during Advent (thanking Him for His birth, life, death, and resurrection) makes a mockery out of any worship or celebration on Christmas.

Advent is a time to repent and change the landscape of our souls, so that when Jesus comes in the manger of His birth, in the preaching of His word, and in His presence in the body and blood of the Sacrament, He will have a place to stay. He then will fill our entire being with His joy of salvation that He was born to bring.

Therefore, I plead with you all. Plan to worship every Sunday and Wednesday during Advent. Be part of the joy we receive in Jesus as we celebrate His birth once again.

In Christ,

Pastor Ken



“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.” Jeremiah 29:11

12/01 Charles Ekarius	12/14 Ruth Szymanski	12/25 Bill Blume
12/02 Adolph Leschper	12/15 Cy Wojtek	12/26 Clifton Langton
12/04 AVERY BOZEMAN	12/16 Linda Blume	12/27 Austin Keeton
12/04 Klarissa Smith	12/16 Brylie Nedd	12/28 Reed Langton
12/05 BRADLEY PICARD	12/16 Debora Waldrop	12/28 AUTUMN MARTINEZ
12/09 Bobby Barrett	12/16 Carol Wied	12/28 Kylie Wolf
12/09 Brooke Munoz	12/17 Laura Kutra	12/29 Clayton Fritsch
12/10 Garret Nedd	12/17 George Wied	12/30 Hilda Allison
12/11 Travis Pavelka	12/20 Amber Nedd	12/31 Lillie Foehner
12/12 Sherri Putt	12/22 Monica Kent	12/31 Barry Wolf
12/12 DAWSON VILLALOVOZ		



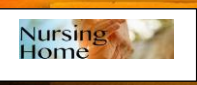
Let's rejoice with these couples as they celebrate the designated anniversaries.

12/07/1963 Paul & Loyce Orsak	12/10/1988 Doug & Rhonda Browne
12/08/1973 Johnny & Susie Busse	12/12/2009 Gaylan & Deborah Christiansen
12/09/1972 Carl & Carol Wied	12/22/1973 David & Patsy Novosad




Blessings to you on this Special Day!

12/1/1973 Melinda Schiller	12/8/2013 Patricia Rother	12/24/1939 Betty Remmert
12/3/2017 Tyler Ramon	12/8/1935 Lorrene Schiller	12/25/2014 Autumn Martinez
12/4/2011 Cameron Wojtek	12/20/1953 Susie Busse	12/25/2014 Grant Martinez
12/8/1935 Grace Holtkamp	12/20/1968 Mark Niemann	12/25/1955 Sherri Putt



Prayers for our Nursing Home and Shut-Ins
For the Lord Gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:6



<p>Dorothy Hein Veranda House 526 Fifth Street Sealy, TX 77474</p> <p>Joyce Meyer Colonial Belle 1401 Eagle Lake Rd. Sealy, TX 7747</p>	<p>George Baade Caydance Assisted Living, 24802 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77494</p> <p>Evangeline Coody Home 7452 Gosler Rd. Sealy, TX 77474</p>	<p>Jo-Anne Gilliam Home 2545 HWY 159 E Fayetteville, TX 78940</p> <p>Carrie Steinbach Home 1252 Eagle Lake Rd. #12 Sealy, TX 77474</p>
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Christmas Advent Schedule

Wednesday, December 1st – 11:00 & 7:00 pm
 Wednesday, December 8th – 11:00 & 7:00 pm
 Wednesday, December 15th – 11:00 & 7:00 pm

Christmas Caroling

Wednesday, December 22nd – 4:45 pm
 Meet in Gym

Christmas Worship Schedule

December 23, 2021, Office Closes @ NOON

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2021, Office Closed (Christmas Eve)
 Christmas Eve Service/Holy Communion @ 6 pm

Christmas Day Service

December 25, 2021, Office Closed (Christmas Day)
 Christmas Day Service/Holy Communion @ 9 am

New Year's

December 30, 2021, Office Closes @ NOON
 December 31, 2021, Office Closed (New Year's Eve)
 January 1, 2021, Office Closed (New Year's Day)



For the month of December, the Sealy Christian Food Pantry needs canned soups and chili. After purchasing the items, bring and place in boxes.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering was on Saturday, November 6, 2021, Trinity Lutheran Church delivered 31 School Kits, 18 Personal Care Kits and 12 Fabric Kits to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 14423 West Rd. in Houston in route to Lutheran World Relief in New Windsor, Maryland. Beth Franke, Grace Holtkamp, Mary Buechmann and Johanna Buechmann donated these kits. The boxes (5 with School Kits, three with Personal Care Kits and two with Fabric Kits) were delivered by Pat, Mary, and Johanna Buechmann. Pastor Bersche blessed these kits during church service the previous weekend. Epiphany was the Ingathering Site for the Houston area. It was a joy to see other churches bring kit and quilt donations to this site to be distributed to those in need around the world.

Mary Buechmann



Trinity Lutheran Women in Mission met on November 9, 2021, at 7 pm and opened with a welcome by Aletha Jeske, President.

Three members and Pastor Bersche were present. Pastor Bersche opened with prayer and presented the topic "Inspected for Thanksgiving." (Luke 17:11-19. Aletha opened the meeting, and the League Pledge was read by all. Mary Buechmann, Secretary, read the minutes from the October meeting. Barbara Vohs made the motion to approve the minutes as read and seconded by Aletha Jeske. All approved. The treasurer's report was not presented. Mites' collection was also taken. The zone retreat in January 2022 was discussed. Special prayers for Haiti and Pro-Life were discussed. Christmas at Colonial Belle on

December 14th was talked about with no final decision. The meeting closed as Pastor Bersche led in the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be December 14th. We invite all ladies here at Trinity to come visit/join us.

***In Christ,
Mary Buechmann, Secretary***



**Thank
you in
advance!**



If you would like to assist by donating items to the Little Free Pantry, just place them in the container in the Narthex. Some suggested items are non-perishable food such as pasta, rice, dry beans, toiletries, water, boxed juice, pasta, rice, canned meats such as tuna, salmon, soups or dry soups, stews, chili, tea bags, coffee...not pods or beans etc. Please consider donating if you can. Thank you! Noah Hankins



Themes! The themes for the month of December are: The Birth of Christ and Giving to Others. 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. The children, parents, and congregational members can help in giving to the Christian Food Pantry.

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:

Nov. 29th – Dec. 3rd

Chapel Time with Pastor Bersche
"Daniel and the Lions"

Dec. 6th – 10th

"Ester the Beautiful"

Chapel Time with Pastor Bersche
"Queen Ester Saves Her People"

Dec. 13th – 17th

"Mary and Joseph"

Chapel Time with Pastor Bersche
"The First Christmas"

Children are learning the first, second and third commandments:

First Commandment: You shall have no other gods. What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

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.

The Third Commandment: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.



The Food Pantry and I would like to say thank you to everyone who purchased yams and cranberry sauce for the less fortunate. Every little bit is a blessing to someone who doesn't know when the next meal will be.



Food Pantry As discussed in the December Themes for the month, children will learn how great it feels to give to others who are less fortunate and not know when their next meal will be. The need for the Food Pantry for the month of December is canned soups and chili. A lot of people in need are not as blessed as we are when it comes to a working stove or microwave or even a can opener.

We would like each child to bring several canned soups and chilis to donate to the Food Pantry. This is simple for the ones in need especially with the pop lids. The Food Pantry will come by to pick up the soups and chilis on Wednesday, December 15th. Thank you in advance to help the less unfortunate.



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 Thursday, December 2nd. Children can wear white clothes, socks, shoes, hair bows, neckties or whatever you can think of to reinforce the color WHITE!



Dress as a Grinch Character – On Friday, December 3rd 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.



Candy Cane Story – The children will enjoy the story of the Candy Cane and watch a short video about it on Wednesday, December 8th.



CUTE Ugly Sweater Day – The children can wear a CUTE UGLY SWEATER on Thursday, December 9th. 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.



Flashlight Day! On Tuesday, December 14th the children may bring a flashlight to preschool labeled with their name. This is to recognize that December 21st this year is the longest night of the year. The teachers will have fun and exciting projects for the children to use their flashlights.



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 from .99 cents to \$3.00. 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 10th. 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 Wednesday, December 15th, 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 Thursday, December 16th. The cake will be white with white frosting. We will all sing happy birthday to our Lord and Savior, Jesus.



Pajama Day/Polar Express! All children! Wear your pajamas and bring your pillow and blanket to preschool and enjoy the morning with the movie Polar Express on Friday, December 17th! Parents, please bring a **small snack** and **small drink** for your child to eat while watching Polar Express.



Family of the Week! Family of the week is a program we have that aids a child 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 is asked to bring about five 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 December are:

Dec. 6th – 10th

Ellen Hilson

Dec. 13th – 17th

Joseph Huerta

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



Fantasy of Lights Parade!

Fantasy of Lights Parade this year is “Cajun Christmas.” Preschool chose “Geaux Trinity Angels” The children may wear whatever they choose to wear. We will place angel wings on them as they arrive to get on the float. Spencer and Arielle Pitcock will have an 18ft trailer and their truck to pull the trailer and a generator. We are working on the 20 to 25 bales of hay for the children to sit.

DISCUSSION OF FLOAT

Will be Monday, November 29th beginning at 8:30 am. At the time we will discuss decorating ideas for the float and make sure we have all necessary materials available.

HAY NEEDED!!

We need someone to help by donating about 20 bales of hay for the children to sit on. The hay will be protected so it will be in great condition to return to you. Please sign up by the children’s sign-in sheet if you are able to lend us the hay for a few days.

BUILD AND DECORATE THE FLOAT

Please, if possible, come and help decorate the float for the Fantasy of Lights Parade that will take place here at the church in the back alley on Friday, December 3rd during preschool hours.

PAINTING/GLUING ETC

Painting the words “Geaux Trinity Angels” on long paper large enough to see from afar. This can be done in the gym.

PERMISSION FORMS

Permission forms must be signed if your child is planning to ride the float. We must have ONLY one parent ride with their child. If a child is riding the float and the parent is not able to ride the float with the child, we ask you to please find a parent to be responsible for your child when we unload everyone off the float.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

The float will be behind the Sealy Jr. High School, by the football practice field at Highway 90 West and Tiger Alley. Float must be at start up line by 4:30 pm and all children riding the float must be on the float by 5:30 pm. Be sure your child has had a restroom break before entering the float. The parade will start promptly at 6:00 pm. Entry number will be announced as soon as I find out.

*Have a safe and blessed Christmas.
In Christ,
Ms. Maggie*



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES November 15, 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
- Casey Picard – Vice President
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Linda Blume – Treasurer
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- Pastor Bersche
- George Wied – Usher Chairman
- Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Valerie Bryant – Christian Growth Chairman

Absent:

- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- Rebecca Tipton – Preschool

The Minutes, from the meeting held on October 11, 2021, were presented for review and approval. Noah Hankins made a motion to accept the minutes. Linda Blume seconded the motion. All Council members approved and the motion passed.

Unfinished/Old Business:

- Elders revised the 2022 budget. There was an error on line item 14 Office Manager Pension, Group Health Ins. The original budget incorrectly showed a decrease of \$725 and was changed to show an increase of \$716. George Wied made a motion to approve the budget correction. Noah Hankins seconded the motion. All Council members approved the budget revision.
- The cost for the new carpet and installation was \$19,878.00 and was paid in full from the Building Fund.

Chairmen Reports:

Linda Blume – Treasurer

- As of October 31, 2021, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$39,845.71. The Building Fund balance was \$45,295.96 and the Designated Fund balance was \$111,445.54. The Total of All Funds was

\$196,587.21. The total contributions for October were \$28,866.00 and total expenses for October were \$27,702.15. The total contributions for 2021 were \$203,772.00 while the total expenses for the year were \$218,536.80.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Offering envelopes should be in soon.
- Very thankful for the wonderful donations in October.

Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Casey Picard – Vice President

- Nothing to report.

Pastor Bersche

- Visited all the shut-ins (including Ruth Paben before she passed away) except for two due to Covid protocols and sickness.
- Official Acts for October 2021:
 - October 10 Baptism of Avianna Darrow (after worship)
 - October 22 Death of Ruth Paben (Funeral was October 28)
 - October 30 Marriage of Meagan Keeton and Alex Castro
- Bible Classes:
 - Sunday Mornings – “This We Believe”
 - Wednesday Mornings – Jeremiah
- Confirmation Seminar covered the Second Table of the Law (Commandments 4-10)

Valerie Bryant – Christian Growth Chairman

- October 24 barbeque fundraiser, silent auction and bake sale was a huge success.
- There are 11 youth signed up to attend the National Youth Gathering.
- The Youth are in charge of the Advent Soup Supper on December 8.
- The Christmas Youth Service will be on December 12.

Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- The barbeque fundraiser benefitting the National Youth Gathering was a huge success with 210 tickets being sold giving the youth \$779.00.
- Christmas Caroling will be Wednesday, December 22 at 5:00 pm. Everyone wishing to join should meet at the church at 4:45 pm.

Trustee Chairman – Vacant

- Nothing to report.

George Wied – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Preschool – Rebecca Tipton

- Nothing to report.

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

New Business

- There was discussion on moving the Council meeting time to 6:30 pm starting in January 2022. Noah Hankins made the motion to accept the new starting time. Casey Picard seconded the motion. All Council members agreed and the motion passed.
- The Elders would like the Council to vote to add Ronnie Schmidt as an elder. George Wied made a motion to add Ronnie as an elder. Noah Hankins seconded the motion. All Council members agreed and the motion passed.
- The Council will be forming a Sound System Committee in January to look into getting a new video and sound system installed in the sanctuary.
- Upstairs piano needs to be cleaned and tuned. Terry Hankins is working on getting quotes to have this done.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. at Mesquite Grill and George Wied will have the devotion. George Wied made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Blume seconded. Meeting was adjourned and Pastor closed with prayer.

*Terry Hankins-President
Kimberly Kornegay-Secretary*

