



Building His Body By
Reflecting the Son



2022

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am Bible Study

Worship Services:
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
979-885-2211

Maggie Kent, Office
Secretary

ELDERS:
Lowell Coody
Joel Grigar
Mark Romano
Doyle Kornegay
Tracy Schiller
Ronnie Schmidt
Stephen Stuessel
Barry Wolf

TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Normal Yet?

This past month things almost seemed to be back to the way it was before the pandemic began in March of 2020. That is until I went to Colonial Belle in Sealy. I was instructed at the door that they once again had an outbreak of covid. They did not say exactly how many or who (obviously due to health privacy policy) but they still had an outbreak.

Again, this past month, I discovered a few people had contracted coronavirus or had been exposed to someone who had it, just when things were going almost back to normal. Even our worship service is back to the way it was before. Beginning this past month, we started the practice of "passing the plate" for our offering on Sundays (which was the last change made in worship at Trinity because of the pandemic).

What I'm trying to tell you is for your own safety and health, still be cautious about the whole pandemic. For the most part, it seems that the worst is behind us, but it is still present. Whether we are back to normal or not, the one thing which Trinity has not done for two years is host a Vacation Bible School.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held at Trinity on Tuesday through Thursday of June 7, 8, and 9th. Our theme this year was "Jerusalem Marketplace." The Bible stories which the children learned were the following: the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem, Jesus' love for all people, Jesus' death and resurrection which all took place in and around Jerusalem.

Children made dreidels while learning a few Hebrew letters and some history of the game. They weaved and made a small basket. Along with the arts and crafts, they sang and danced. And they got to play a lot of games outside on the playground.

Another part of VBS was a Bible drama where the children were introduced to Mary Magdalene. She helped them experience Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Mary spoke to them about the pain of betrayal and losing a friend. Yet, she also shared joy with them at her Lord's resurrection.

Children also were introduced to synagogue school. At synagogue school they learned the Hebrew alphabet, wore yarmulkes, discovered what a tefillin is (a small box which one wears that holds sacred writings from the Bible), and learned a special blessing in Hebrew.

Although attendance of youth was lower than in times past, they heard about God's love in Jesus for us. We continue to serve our great King Jesus whether it is normal or whether it is not normal.

In Christ, Pastor Ken



Church office closed Monday, July 4th for the Fourth of July!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

“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

7/02 Valerie Bryant	7/10 Angelia Ramon	7/18 Dennis Tipton	7/26 EMMA FOLTZ
7/02 EVA KRUZEL	7/11 Bradley Kent	7/23 Mark Romano	7/27 Bradley Bozeman
7/05 Ashley Vojtek	7/16 Melinda Schiller	7/24 David Novosad	7/27 R. D. Schmidt
7/07 Ronnie Schmidt	7/17 Julie Ebers	7/24 Joyce Park	7/31 David Cash
7/10 Brett Carter	7/17 ADELINE VRABLEC		

♥ HAPPY ♥ ANNIVERSARY ♥

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

7/6/1991 Pastor Kenneth and Melissa Bersche	7/17/2010 Bradley and Heather Bozeman
7/7/1990 Barry and Rachael Wolf	7/18/1976 Dennis and Becky Tipton
7/14/2012 Doyle and Kimberly Kornegay	7/29/1967 Carl and Diane Clover
7/16/2011 Travis and Brittany Pavelka	

BAPTISM

“This water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” -1 Peter 3:21

7/1/2002 Courtney Dziadek	7/13/2008 Lillian Villalovoz	7/21/2001 Luke Thielemann
7/1/1958 Beth Franke	7/16/2000 Brody Schiller	7/22/1979 Justin Szymanski
7/2/1983 Valerie Bryant	7/19/1998 Brandon Ebers	7/23/2017 BRYNN BLUME
7/10/2011 CASE CARTER	7/19/1998 Brett Ebers	7/25/2020 HANISH THOMPSON
7/10/1955 Dan Kieke	7/19/1946 Paul Orsak	7/27/2004 Neil Johnston
7/11/1978 Chad Hintz	7/20/1969 Johanna Buechmann	7/27/2014 GABBY MATUS
7/11/1965 Sterling Schiller	7/20/2014 AVERY FULLEN	7/28/2019 COLT SHUPAK
7/12/1981 Steven Cobb	7/21/2012 Haley Orsak	7/28/2019 COURTYLYNN SHUPAK

CONFIRMANDS

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast.” – Ephesians 2:8-9

7/7/1974 Clarence Einkauf	7/20/1997 Jerry Ebers	7/20/1997 Clifton Langton
7/18/1976 Dennis Tipton	7/20/1997 Julie Ebers	7/20/1997 Krisha Langton



Prayers for Nursing Home and Shut Ins



For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:6

Dorothy Hein, Veranda House, 526 Fifth Street Sealy, TX 77474

Shirley Svinky, Veranda House, 526 Fifth Street Sealy, TX 77474

Carrie Steinbach, Home, 1252 Eagle Lake Rd. #12 Sealy, TX 77474

Joyce Meyer, Colonial Belle, 1401 Eagle Lake Rd. Sealy, TX 7747

George Baade, Caydance Assisted Living, 4802 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77494

Psalm 54:6 – “With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to You; I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.”



Tithe

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.



Faithful Tithers

January 1, 2007 / The Magazine / By The LCMS
by *Randy Schroeder*



We always have been faithful tithers in our worship life at church. During the past year,

however, we've had so many unexpected bills, we have had to cut back on how much we can give to the church. I feel very guilty about this. What does the Bible say about our offerings?

I appreciate your Christ-centered heart as well as your desire to give back to the Lord your first fruits. Tithing is, as you say, an offering, and not a contribution to a charitable organization. By reducing the amount of your offering, you have not done anything sinful. The grace in which we live is unaffected by how much we give on Sunday. Feeling financial stress due to unexpected expenses is completely understandable. Your struggle to come to terms in a godly way with your changing circumstances is admirable; it is an example of the challenges of faith that confront each of us.

The concept of tithing (giving 10 percent) was demanded in the Old Testament. This dictum, however, is no longer binding. Giving our offering out of a sense of duty, or as "proof" of faithfulness, will only result in feeling burdened and guilty, if we "fail" to give.

St. Paul encouraged the believers in Corinth to "decide in their heart what to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). It is the love God first showed us in our crucified and risen Savior that frees us to make our offering cheerfully. Our giving is a response to such love, a privilege to help proclaim the news of forgiveness and salvation found in Christ.

Although tithing is a healthy guideline, the percentage of our income we offer is not really the issue. Rather, the issue is what is found in the heart of the giver. Jesus made this point as he observed the widow putting in her offering, which, in comparison with others, was meager, yet elicited His highest praise because of the sheer trust and thanks with which she gave (Luke 21:1-4).

Because all that we own and all that we earn belong to God, we, by our offering, merely give back a portion of that with which He has blessed us. It is faith that grasps this reality, in spite of the temptation to find security in material possessions, as the Scriptures promise: "Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf (Prov. 11:28).

It's Strange

It's strange how twenty dollars seems like such a large amount when you donate it to church, but such a small amount when you go shopping.

It's strange how 2 hours seem so long when you're at church, and how short they seem when you're watching a good movie.

It's strange that you can't find words to say when you're praying, but you have no trouble thinking what to talk about with a friend.

It's strange how difficult it is to read one chapter of the Bible, but how easy it is to read a popular novel.

It's strange how everyone wants front-row-tickets to concerts, but they want to sit in the last row at Church.

It's strange how we need to know about an event for Church two to three weeks before the day so we can include it in our agenda, but we can adjust it for other events in the last minute?

It's strange how difficult it is to learn a fact about God and share it with others, but it's easy to repeat gossip.

It's strange how we believe everything that magazines and newspapers say, but we question the words in the Bible?

It's strange how we send jokes in e-mails, and they are forwarded right away, but when we are going to send messages about God, we think about it twice before we share it with others?

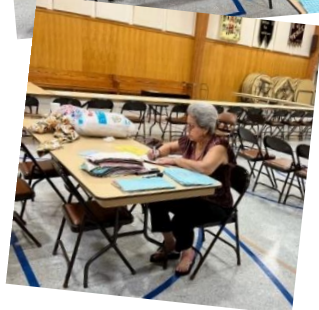
It's strange how everyone wants a place in heaven, but they don't want to believe, do, or say anything to get there?

I am sure there are many more we can add to this list.

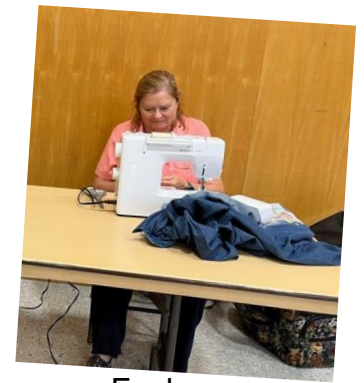
Author Unknown

Remember to contact Thrivent to send your Choice Dollars to groups that you named. Any questions, please call Grace Holtkamp. **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS - THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS**
 June 8, 2022, Amount of Deposit: \$249.00

The Blessing Box Project



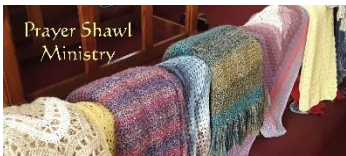
“The Blessing Box Project” is a group of volunteers from Bellville, Sealy and the surrounding communities that get together to make and assemble Blessing Boxes to be sent to breast cancer patients, following their surgeries. This group was started in 2019 by one woman from Bellville, Dawn Compton, following her diagnosis. She received a specially made pillow that was a tremendous comfort and help to her. She started making a few pillows for other women and from there it grew....and grew. Today, this amazing group of volunteers has sent out over 8,000 boxes across the United States, and even a few have gone international. There is also a Facebook group that has over 10,000 followers.



Each box contains a mastectomy pillow and a shirt that has been altered to have special pockets for use after surgery. The boxes also include other items, such as socks, chapstick, jewelry, inspirational quotes, etc. **Everyone that requests a box will receive one at no charge to them. This group solely runs on donations.**

The ladies (and men) that make these boxes get together once a month at different churches in Bellville and Hempstead. In addition, many people are sewing pillows and shirts at their homes across the United States. We are forming a small group of women, or men, from Sealy to meet here at Trinity once a month for a “sew-in.” We need people who like to sew, but that is not a requirement to be able to help. We also need people to cut the fabric for the pillows and pockets, to iron and to stuff the pillows with polyfill. It is all very simple!!

We will be meeting here at Trinity next Wednesday, June 15th at 1:00 p.m. Please consider joining us and become part of this project to help women. Also, if you, or someone you know, is facing an upcoming breast cancer surgery, feel free to contact me and I will put them on the list to receive one of these boxes. For more information, please call Ruth Szymanski at 979-885-9504. Thank you!
 Come join us each second Wednesday of the month to Sew Ins at 1:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church gym area and learn more about this amazing project.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

will not meet for the month of July. The Prayer Shawl Ministry prays and provides comfort shawls for those in need. Open to anyone who would like to participate. Instruction for knitting or crocheting is provided as needed. The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets every first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm. A shawl may be given to a person undergoing medical procedures, during an illness and recovery, as a comfort after a loss, during bereavement or ministering to others. If you find it in your heart that the Prayer Shawl Ministry is something you would like to do, please contact Barbara Vohs at 713-516-2704.



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

\$26.00 through Concordia Publishing House without The Texas Messenger. Or you can request and pay the church to purchase the subscription for \$14.00, 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.



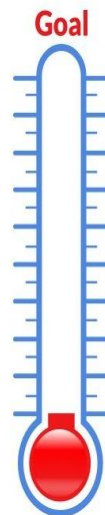
LWML attended the Convention in Houston in June. Meeting in July on Tuesday, July 12, at 6:00

pm, we will hear discussions on newly voted Mite Box Projects and discuss a time for all to have a "Clean Out Your Closet" fund raiser for the Diaper Bank planning a time at the end of July or second week of August. Another topic will be on how the Pregnancy Building is developing and when will the dedication for the building take place. In August meeting on Tuesday, August 9 at 6 p.m. I will have more information about the works of

LWML. All members of Trinity Lutheran Church are invited to wholeheartedly join in on bringing diapers and/or baby items for the Sealy Pregnancy Resource Center. Thanks for your help as we observe the sacredness of babies.

Aletha Jeske

AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT FUNDRAISER



The audio/visual equipment we have at Trinity has long passed its lifespan. A thermometer fundraiser diagram has been set up to show the offset of the cost to meet the goal of \$25,000.00. If you can please donate towards the Audio/Visual Equipment Fundraiser the amount is credited to your offerings. Please use a building fund envelope with a note on the outside designated to the Audio/Visual fund. We have raised

a little over \$3000.00 thanks to you!



The last few years Trinity Lutheran Preschool and all childcare facilities have been through so many changes from Covid 19. In

May 2020, almost 37% of childcare operations temporarily closed. The number of home-based childcare businesses has declined by about 15% since January 2020. Childcare homes, which currently provide about 5% of available childcare slots in the state, are based in the provider's home and are permitted to care for between three and 12 children.

Throughout 2019 and into the beginning of 2020, about 95% of licensed childcare operations in the state were open and providing care. In May 2020, less than two-thirds were open — about 10,500 operations statewide.

Childcare providers resumed care in subsequent months, but some temporary closures became permanent. As of January, the number of licensed operations has declined by about 8% from May

2020. So, although about 97% of operations are open again, there are fewer licensed childcare providers now than before the pandemic.

Texas has received billions in federal aid for childcare providers since the beginning of the pandemic, starting with \$371 million from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed in March 2020.

Since then, the federal government allocated an additional \$1.1 billion to Texas childcare providers through the 2021 Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, which was signed into law in December 2020. About half of that \$1.1 billion has already been sent to 9,456 Texas childcare providers and is set to be fully distributed by this fall, said Angela Woellner, a Texas Workforce Commission spokesperson.

Texas will distribute another \$2.45 billion to childcare providers through the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which went into effect last March. In February, The Workforce Commission approved giving an additional billion dollars of federal money to the state's childcare providers, Woellner said.

To survive with fewer tuition-paying families and expensive new pandemic safety guidelines, 42 percent of childcare providers surveyed by NAEYC in November had taken on personal debt, often on credit cards. Providers say they don't know how long they can hold on.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool received a grant, filled out by our preschool treasurer, which took a lot of her time and effort to make sure Trinity Lutheran Preschool remains open. Before the grant was filled out, we brought it to the President of Church Council, Terry Hankins and Head Elder, Barry Wolf to make sure this was approved and legit.

Preschool has already received the first batch of money consisting of \$53,162.00. This money can only be spent on preschool items such as upgrading all the classrooms to new furniture, playground, office equipment, office supplies, classroom supplies and so much more. Once this money is spent and receipts are turned into Work Source Solutions, then we will receive another batch of money by November.

Right now, the preschool will be purchasing a monitor for the preschool office that go along with the cameras that were purchased a couple of years ago. Another expenditure that Workforce Commission wants us to do is tuition assistance for several families. This is another way the money must be used to give back to families in our community.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool is very blessed to still be around. The teachers and office staff worked very hard not to spend preschool money. The preschool staff and office staff spent money out of their own pockets for supplies. Thank you for all the support and prayers.

*God's Blessings,
Ms. Maggie*



HUNGER IS ONGOING!

Thanks to each one who donates to the Trinity Little Free Pantry! If 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 foods such as toiletries, water, boxed juice, canned or packaged pop-top meats such as tuna, salmon, soups or cup of soups, stews, chili, tea bags, coffee...not pods or beans etc. Thank you!
Noah Hankins



PROJECT FOR TLWM

(Trinity Lutheran Women in Mission) will be the LCMS "March Behind the Cross." Members, even all men!! Let's overload the Diaper Bank for the Sealy Pregnancy Center every Sunday, bringing a baby item to place in the marked box in the narthex or gym. Thanks, and God's blessings! Small box in the narthex; larger box in the gym.

COUNCIL MINUTES

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES June 13, 2022

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

Council members present:

- Terry Hankins – President
- Casey Picard – Vice President
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- George Wied – Usher Chairman
- Patricia Rother – Christian Growth Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Rebecca Tipton & Maggie Kent - Preschool

Absent:

- Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Pastor Bersche

The Minutes from the meeting held on May 16, 2022 were presented for review and approval. George Wied made a motion to accept the minutes. Barry Wolf seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Old Business

- Discussion of which funds to use for payment of an invoice from EB Air for an emergency A/C fix in the kitchen. Tabled to New Business.
- Discussion was held regarding A/C contract from OGH for preventative maintenance on the unit for the sanctuary. Casey Picard will contact OGH to schedule a service call to learn about the system and where and how to replace all the filters.

Chairmen Reports:

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

- As of May 31, 2022, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$21,997.96. The Building Fund balance was \$27,490.44 and the Designated Fund balance was \$101,572.25. The Total of All Funds was \$151,060.65. The total contributions for May were \$25,988.01 and total expenses for May were \$21,581.27. The total contributions for the year 2022 were \$96,693.21 while the total expenses for the year were \$109,488.41.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Contributions for the Audio/Media system are \$3,200.00 to date.

Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman

- Update on audio/visual system – new mics are now a year away from coming in. Pam is going to see if we can change or get different mics for the time being. The roving camera is not functioning properly, and this is the second camera they have installed so Pam is asking the company to send another one or fix the problem.
- Facebook live stream now has good visuals and audio. Individuals are working on getting a login and password set up on the Trinity Lutheran Facebook, so individuals are able to login and watch the services live if they are unable to attend.
- Looking for more volunteers to help with the audio/visual on Sundays. The Elders will run the audio portion, but we need more people trained to help.

Casey Picard – Vice President

- No report.

Pastor Bersche

- Official Acts for May 2022:
 - Robert L. Emshoff passed away on May 21, 2022. His funeral was May 27, 2022

- Transfer of Joe and Oivia Diez to Immanuel Lutheran in Giddings.
- Prospective member is looking to start an adult volleyball league at Trinity.
- Pastor is looking to start an open gym on Wednesdays for youth.

Patricia Rother – Christian Growth Chairman

- VBS was a success. We had 17 participants and lots of adult and youth volunteers.
- The National Youth Gathering is fast approaching. There are 11 youth and 3 chaperones attending and has already been fully funded. Anyone can join the live stream during the actual gathering. The National Youth Gathering Worship Service will be held on July 17.

Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- The New Members Luncheon/Potluck held on June 12th went well.
- We will be planning for our October 9 Mission Sunday festival.

Trustee Chairman – No report.

George Wied – Usher Chairman

- Usher schedule for the rest of the year is posted in the narthex.

Preschool – Rebecca Tipton and Maggie Kent

- Two teachers were let go at the end of the school year. Numbers are low right now but may pick up. Reasoning is the State of Texas is adding pre-school to the public school system at no charge for part-time or full-time students.
- Maggie is working on revamping the curriculum for next year in order to return to a more Christian oriented curriculum.
- The Preschool Board is meeting on July 10.
- The Preschool has received grant money to update all the classrooms.

There being no further reports, George Wied made the motion to accept all reports

presented. Casey Picard seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.

New Business

- Discussion regarding the purchase of a new A/C unit for the fellowship building (upstairs conference room and 2 storage rooms). Estimates were obtained. Barry Wolf made a motion to have EB Air do installation. Casey Picard seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed. Cost will be \$9,995.00.
- George Wied made a motion to move \$15,801.00 from Designated Funds (Lent Service, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Heating and A/C Unit funds) into the Building Fund to pay for the 2 new A/C units. Casey Picard seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

There being no further business, Barry Wolf made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, July 18th at 6:30 p.m. and Janice Wied will have the devotion.

***Terry Hankins - President
Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary***

*What's the best way to study the Bible?
Answer: You Luke into it.*

*Why did the spider get a job in I.T.?
Answer: He was a great web designer.*

*What has a head and a tail but no body?
Answer: A coin.*