



Building His Body By  
Reflecting the Son

**January 2023**



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

Pastor:  
Kenneth Bersche  
[Pastorken@tlcsealy.org](mailto: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



## Undistracted!

There is an English fable of a bloodhound. The dog was talented, gifted, and well-trained. His owner was proud of the bloodhound even when he tended to howl for no apparent reason. One day, the bloodhound began a hunt by chasing a large full-grown male deer. The chase went over and through brush and trees and streams. But during the chase a red fox crossed the dog's path. Then the bloodhound gave up the chase of the trophy deer to chase the fox. Again, the new chase took twists and turns when suddenly, a rabbit crossed his hunting path. Now the bloodhound started chasing after the rabbit. Yet after a while as that chase continued, a tiny field mouse crossed his path. So then he started to chase after the tiny field mouse for some time. Finally, the dog chased the tiny field mouse into the corner of a farmer's barn.

The bloodhound had begun his hunt chasing a large male deer for his owner and yet wound up after the long, hard chase barking at a tiny mouse in a corner. The point of the story is simple. When working towards a goal how easy it is to get distracted to chase after something of less substance and less importance.

As we enter a new year, we remember that how often we get distracted. It's funny how our priorities get lessened and lessened. Our spiritual focus in life should be to grow spiritually in Christ yet all too often the smaller, less important cares in life get more of our attention.

Even in our distractions, our God still grants us His forgiveness. His patience for us is quite enduring. How quick we are to judge someone or even ourselves for getting spiritually distracted but our heavenly Father does not. He constantly continues to forgive and forget our sins. His Son, Jesus, went to the cross. He did not get distracted by the small unimportant cares of the world. Instead, He walked to Golgotha where He died our death to give us new life.

For Jesus and His love for us there are no distractions. The goal God set for His destination at the cross and empty tomb for us, He completed. Now in Him, Jesus, we have the ability to have an undistracted life.

In Christ, *Pastor Ken*



# 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

1/02 Debbie Ashorn	1/08 Royce Sebesta	1/19 Rachel Hilson
1/03 Kyle Johnston	1/09 Meagan Keeton	1/19 Preston Villalovoz
1/03 David Kainer	1/09 Stephanie Sneed	1/23 Brian Nedd
1/06 Aletha Jeske	1/11 LILA MEYER	1/24 BOWEN BLUME
1/06 Kimberly Kornegay	1/12 Johnny Busse	1/25 Doug Browne
1/07 ISAAC BRYANT	1/14 John Schier	1/25 Wayne Grigar
1/07 Bunmi Hintz	1/15 Theresa Terrell	1/27 Shari Cleveland
1/08 Melody Anderson	1/18 Lisa H. Barrett	1/27 Patsy Novosad



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

1/02/1993 George & Janice Wied	1/22/1993 Beverly and Kenny Fritsch
1/04/1992 Jerry & Julie Ebers	1/31/2015 Brandi and Aaron Pizana
1/15/1956 Royce and Viola Sebesta	

## 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

1/1/1939 Doris Schaffner	1/1/1986 Stephanie Meyer	1/11/2015 Dawson Villalovoz
7/25/1943 Pat Buechmann	1/1/1986 Joyce Park	1/12/1964 Debra Waldrop
1/1/1982 Julie Ebers	1/1/1968 Ann Reay	1/15/2006 Zabein Allen
1/1/1980 Pam Epperly	1/1/1953 Ruth Szymanski	1/15/2012 Bradley Picard
1/1/1986 Patricia Grigar	1/3/1993 Cody Barrett	1/15/2006 Clayton Sneed
1/1/1986 Wayne Grigar	1/4/2009 Ryanne Meyer	1/17/1988 Travis Pavelka
1/1/1966 Susie Hartmann	1/8/1935 Royce Sebesta	1/21/2004 Alexis Horelica
1/1/1965 Robin Jacobson		1/21/1947 Larry Schulke
1/1/1986 Al Konesheck Jr.		
1/1/1986 Amanda Matus		



### 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  
 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

## 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.



**PRAYER LIST UPDATES** - Please look over the prayer list and give updates. Contact the church office or Pastor Bersche.



Please come by the church office for your 2023 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES. Please begin using your new envelopes beginning on the first Sunday in January. If you have any questions, please contact Janice Wied or any member of the Stewardship Committee.



Thank you for your purchase of the poinsettias dedicated in honor or memory of a loved one. Thank you for giving the church extra beauty during the Christmas season.

*From The Altar Guild*

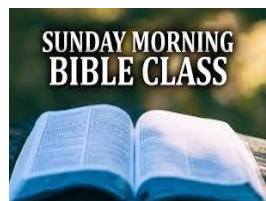


**FLOWER CHART 2023** - Please sign up in the narthex on the new Flower Chart for 2023 if you would like to place altar flower arrangements giving God the Glory in memory or honor of birthdays, anniversaries, or special occasions.



**CHURCH MAILBOX CHRISTMAS CARDS!** Members and Guests, please check your slots for Christmas cards! This is

located as you enter the front double glass doors on the right. After Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, the cards will be recycled.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES CONTINUES** Please join us for furthering your Christian education. Come and find out more. See you on Sundays at 9:00 am.

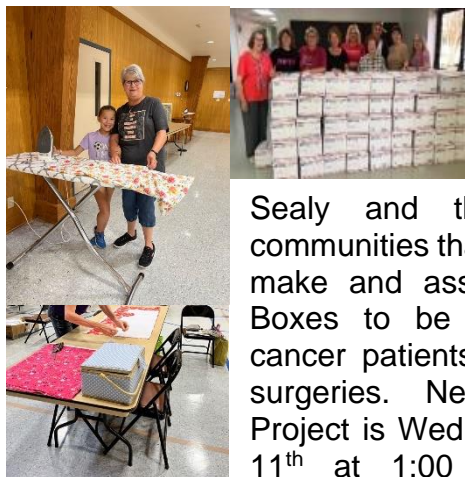


**Fellowship Sunday And Sunday School!**

Let's start off the New Year by attending Sunday School! Let's fill these classrooms with all ages! Right before Sunday School at 8:30 am we have a little social time with donuts, kolaches and coffee. Then at 9:00 am we

attend Sunday School for all ages, Preschoolers, Children, Jr. High, High School, and Adults! If you have not been, please come and join us! See you at 8:30 am on Sundays!

**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. Next Blessing Box Project is Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church gym. For more information, please call Ruth Szymanski at 979-885-9504. This project is growing, and we can use you!

**Little Free Pantry**



Thanks to each one who donated to the Trinity Little Free Pantry! If you would like to assist by donating items to the Little Free Pantry, just place them in the container in the Narthex or glass hallway. 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 by every Sunday, bringing a baby item to place in the marked box in the narthex or gym. Thanks, and God's blessings! There is a box in the narthex to place your items.





**TLWM** Trinity Lutheran Women in Mission meets every second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. Please come and join us and see what we are all about. Everyone is invited!



**Congratulations to our new 2023 Church Officers who were installed Sunday, December 18, 2022. Here is a list of all the Officers:**

- Terry Hankins** – President
- Casey Picard** – Vice President
- Kimberly Kornegay** – Secretary
- Ruth Szymanski** – Treasurer
- Barry Wolf** – Elder Chairman
- Patricia Rother** – Board of Christian Growth
- Noah Hankins** – Congregational Fellowship Outreach
  
- Pastor Bersche**
- Janice Wied** – Stewardship Chairman
- George Wied** – Trustee Chairman
- David Novosad** – Usher Chairman
- Patsy Novosad** – Preschool Liaison
- Rachel Villalovoz** – Preschool Treasurer



**YOUTH – ALL JR. HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL COME JOIN US FOR OPEN GYM NIGHT**



**ADULT VOLLEYBALL – COME JOIN US EVERY THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH FOR ADULT VOLLEYBALL HERE AT TRINITY AT 6:30 PM**

**COME SEE**



**Preschool Remodeling Open House for Our Church Family**



*“All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.”*

**2 CORINTHIANS 4:15**

God blesses us and we don't even realize it. We must ask God to help us find a blessing in everything,

whether good or bad. One of our journeys in life is to spread the word of God and help others see that there is glory in His name.

God blessed us with this grant money towards the preschool to upgrade the classrooms. The facility has not been upgraded for twenty-seven years as director of this preschool program. What a blessing it is to see the parents and children's faces as they return from the Christmas break.

This is what it is all about! Sharing the miracles and blessings to the community, our congregation, our organizations in our church body, preschool parents and children and the staff of Trinity. All of you are part of this preschool program. Without you we would not be here.

On Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> the congregation is invited to visit the preschool classrooms after the worship service. The classroom carpets are removed and replaced with vinyl plank flooring. All the classrooms have been painted. The classrooms after entering the double glass doors, the cabinets have been removed and replaced with new bottom and top cabinets. The restroom in between the two- and three-year-old classrooms is updated with new countertop, sink and cabinet doors.

After you have visited the classrooms, please come, and enjoy cookies, punch, and coffee in the gym. Our preschool our church!

**Ms. Maggie**



Wow, it is hard to believe that half of the school year is gone! I hope that everyone had a great Christmas, and you are

ready for 2023. I know that God has a lot of plans for all of us for this year. Always pray and God will guide you to the right path. Enjoy your new year! The staff and I would like to say "thank you" to everyone for the wonderful gifts that were given to us for Christmas. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated!



I want to thank all who were involved with the Fantasy of Lights Preschool Float. This year's Christmas Theme for the parade was

"Christmas Fiesta. Spencer and Areille Pitcock used their truck and trailer. Areille Pitcock, Gregg Lapham, Abigail Brennan, Candace Kircher and Savanna Thourot helped decorate the float.

<p><b>Jan. 9 – Jan. 13</b> Chapel with Pastor Bersche Jesus is Lost p. 296 John Baptizes Jesus p. 303</p> <p><b>Jan. 16 – Jan. 20</b> Chapel with Pastor Bersche Jesus Chooses His Disciples p. 308 Jesus' First Miracle Jesus Heals a Blind Beggar p. 371</p>	<p><b>Jan. 23 – Jan. 27</b> Money in a Fish p. 375 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Jesus Walks on Water p. 364</p> <p>The Good Samaritan Jan. 30 – Feb. 3 Mary and Martha p. 385 Chapel with Pastor Bersche</p>
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Thank you to Candace Kircher for the use of hay. A big thank you to everyone who helped tear down the decorations off the trailer the same night as the parade. I love teamwork!

**Thank you God**



**Thank You Blessings!**

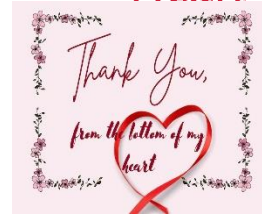
Another blessing is the purchase of shelves from Child's Place Daycare. Gloria Trunbull retired after forty years of being in the childcare field. I want to say thank

you to Spencer Pitcock for bringing his truck and trailer to load up shelves that Gloria was selling. Thanks to parents Spencer Pitcock, Adam Williamson, Clayton and Kristen Haidusek, Jose Avila and Adam Green for loading up the furniture from Child's Place and unloading the furniture to Trinity Lutheran. Thank you for being blessings!



I am thankful for all the dads Mitchell Krenek, Bobby Bruce and Adam Williamson that put all the new shelves together that were purchased for the preschool resource closet. Thank you for being awesome!

**BLESSINGS from the Heart**



A big thank you to Adam Williamson and Dean Jacobson for lifting and moving all the heavy items out of the classrooms and placing them in the gym. We could not have done this without you. From my heart **THANK YOU!**

**Food Pantry Donations**

Thanks to all who donated money to go towards the Sealy Christian Food Pantry.

**PRESCHOOL THEMES**

The theme for the month of January is Community Helpers, such as doctors, firemen, policemen, veterinarians and many more. The children will play out roles in their classrooms and learn the importance of these careers and how people serve and help the community.

The letters for the month for the classes that are ready to move on are P, L, U, G, and H. The shape and color for the classes will be learning are SQUARE and YELLOW.

The Bible Stories for the month are:

The Bible Verse for the month is:

"Trust in the Lord and do Good" Psalm 37:3.

Children will continue learning the Ten Commandments.

**CRAZY HAT DAY**

**Crazy Hat Day!** On Friday January 13<sup>th</sup>, the children

are having a Crazy Hat Day! This is a fun day for the children are so cute and adorable! I love it when the parents help their children get very creative on any silly day. So, decorate a hat and make it silly!



**National Sticker Day!** I looked up National Days in January and

I found a day! National Sticker Day is Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>! Stickers are so much fun. The preschoolers can have a blast having sticker fun. We will line the gym wall with paper and the children can have fun placing stickers everywhere on the paper. Please have your child bring a package of cute, funny, solid, or animal stickers to school on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> for a perfect day to go crazy!



**Wear Yellow Day!** On Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> the children can wear yellow to reinforce the color for the month.



**Dress As a Community Helper!**

On Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> we would like the children to come to school as one of their favorite community helpers! During the entire month we will be learning about our community and how our community helpers provide the necessities for us to live a better life.

Who knows what these little preschoolers will be like when they grow up? But what an opportunity to have them dress and act out a role who they think is an important part of their lives and the encouragement to grow and become one.



**Family of the Week!**

Family of the week is a program we have that gives an opportunity to share their family with everyone. Each week a family will be chosen to be Family of the Week.

Your child should bring 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 January are:

<b>Jan. 9 – Jan. 13</b> Tucker Lewis	<b>Jan. 23 – Jan. 27</b> Leanna Lopez
<b>Jan. 16 – Jan. 20</b> Emma Lewis	<b>Jan. 30 – Feb. 3</b> Logan Lopez

Please hand your pictures to your child's teacher the Friday before your child is Family of the Week!



**Camouflage Day!** On Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, the preschoolers can come dressed in camouflage pants, tops, hats etc. This can be any color of camouflage and

if you do not have camouflage, just wear the colors of camouflage.

Camouflage also means to hide, just like Jesus hid in the tomb for three days before he joined God. But even though we are blended, God still wants us to stand out. So don't forget Camouflage Day!



**Reminder!** Preschool will be closed Monday January 16<sup>th</sup> for the Public School Holiday of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

*In Christ, Ms. Maggie*



**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
December 12, 2022**

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

**Council members present:**

- Terry Hankins – President
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- Pastor Bersche
- Patricia Rother – Christian Growth Chairman
- Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- George Wied – Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary

**Absent:**

- Casey Picard – Vice President
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Preschool

The Minutes from the meeting held on October 12 and November 14, 2022, were presented for review and approval. George Wied made a motion to accept the minutes. Noah Hankins seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

**Old Business:** No old business.

**Chairmen Reports:**

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer (Treasurer's Report was presented by Terry Hankins.)



- As of November 30, 2022, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$18,452.13. The Building Fund balance was \$27,081.75 and the Designated Fund balance was \$76,744.00. The Total of All Funds was \$122,277.88. The total contributions for November were \$20,404.00 and total expenses for November were \$21,391.40. The total contributions for the year 2022 were \$218,471.35 while the total expenses for the year were \$245,022.66.

#### Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Offering Envelopes for 2023 are ready for pick-up.
- Contributions for the Audio/Media system are \$8,468.00 to date.

#### Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman

- Christmas cards were given to the elders to mail out.
- The Handbell Choir requested new gloves and requested to have wooden handles on handbells replaced and for bells to be polished. This request was approved.
- Elder Duty List for 2023 is complete.
- Nominations for Head Elder were taken. Barry Wolf's name was nominated by Joel Grigar and seconded by Stephen Stuessel. The only discussion was by Barry Wolf on how he would help anyone else who would be nominated. There were no other nominations. A vote was taken and recorded as 6 yes and 1 no. Motion was approved and with the approval of the Church Council, this will be the last term for Barry Wolf.
- The next Elder's Meeting will be January 8, 2023.

#### Casey Picard – Vice President

- No report.

#### Pastor Bersche

- Visits continue for shut ins.
- Official Acts: Acclamation of Faith for new members Michael and Trine Hultstrand.
- Deaths:
  - June Leenan (former member) passed away November 12. The

funeral was on November 22 in Bellville.

- Barbara Vohs passed away November 16. The funeral was on November 28.
- Shirley Svinky passed away November 28. The funeral was on December 2.
- Confirmation class continues with the study of the Apostles' Creed.
- Sunday Morning Bible Class continues "That Blank Page in the Middle" through December and will conclude in early January.
- Wednesday Morning Bible Class continues the study on Revelations (currently on chapter 10).
- The 2023 Officer Installation will be held on December 18, 2022.

#### Patricia Rother - Christian Growth Chairman

- The Youth Christmas Service held on December 11 was a success.
- Pizza will be served at the Advent Soup Supper hosted by the youth.

#### Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- The Angel Tree Project was a success. Trinity Lutheran and Lifebridge were able to take care of all the children for the Pregnancy Center.
- Christmas Caroling is scheduled for December 21.

#### Trustee Chairman –

- No report.

#### George Wied – Usher Chairman

- George Wied thanked those who served on the nominating committee and those who accepted officer positions.

#### Preschool – Report given by Terry Hankins.

- Preschool classroom renovation is scheduled to begin on Monday, December 19.

There being no further reports, Barry Wolf made the motion to accept all reports presented. Tricia Rother seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.

## New Business

- There was discussion regarding the Head Elder position. Discussion ceased and George Wied made a motion to approve Barry Wolf for an extra term as Head Elder. Noah Hankins seconded the motion. A vote was taken and recorded as 5 yes and 1 no. The motion was approved.
- A request was made for Trinity Lutheran Church to donate \$100.00 to the Circuit Pastor's Christmas Party. Noah Hankins made a motion to donate \$100. George Wied seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.

There being no further business, George Wied made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tricia Rother seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. and Barry Wolf will have the devotion.

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

## A Little Bit of Humor

A father was at the beach with his children when his four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore, where a seagull lay dead in the sand. 'Daddy, what happened to him?' the son asked, 'He died and went to Heaven,' the dad replied. The boy thought a moment and then said, 'Did God throw him back down?'

### **Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?**

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

### **Q. What was the greatest female financier in the Bible?**

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

### **Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?**

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

