

Building His Body By

## Reflecting the Son



# TRINITY TIDBITS

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

## **Dealing with Death Differently**

There are many things in life that "give away" your age to others and to yourself. For instance, when you have adult children, others know without any doubt that you are not 22 years of age, especially when your daughter is 25! Yet once again, as I was rummaging through some old files, I realized my age. I came across an article of my field church supervisor, Jonathan Stein, in North County, St. Louis during my seminary days. The article reported his death in December of 2016. And I served under him back in the early 1990's. He had been in the pastoral ministry for many decades. My first thought was how quick the time goes. It seemed like only a couple of years ago. but then it hit me, that was a couple of decades ago! Yet his passing away was even seven years ago at that.

The older we get, the closer we come to our passing away from this earth in order to be with Jesus forever. Look at it in this positive way, the older we get the better we get and the closer we get to Jesus.

As I looked at that death notice, I considered how great it was for him. After all those years of service, he now was serving Jesus personally and without pain. Truthfully, we deal with death very differently than those outside the Christian faith. To them it's the end. To them the person only lives on in memory or in an imaginary form. To us it's only another chapter in one's life in service to Christ.

We all have experienced the grief of losing a loved one. Yet we do so with the confidence in knowing that Jesus is our best friend in life and in death. He Himself took our place on the cross for us. He died so that we have life and have it abundantly. His death for us means life. It means that we have no fear of death. It means that instead of merely celebrating one's memory at the point of death, we also celebrate their future in heaven with Jesus.

St. Paul writes to the Thessalonian Christians these comforting and kind words which we take into consideration:

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

We certainly have the blessed hope of eternal life in the presence of Jesus, our Lord!

In Christ Alone, **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

9/02	Taylor Cash	9/07	RYLYNN FUREY	9/10	Alice Moore	9/19	Katy Grigar
9/02	Deborah Christiansen	9/07	Drake Grigar	9/10	Billy Schaffner	9/20	Carol Schuknecht
9/02	Russell Dziadek	9/07	GABBY MATUS	9/10	Janice Wied	9/22	JAYLEE KONESHECK
9/03	Shirley Schier	9/08	Scott Einkauf	9/13	Andrea Coody	9/23	Melissa Bersche
9/04	Carl Wied	9/09	Patricia Grigar	9/13	Ronnie Thrasher II	9/27	Rebecca Tipton
9/05	Loretta Dziadek	9/09	Kellie Kainer	9/17	Doyle Kornegay	9/25	Brandi Pizana
9/05	Jason Kainer	9/09	Jake Schiller	9/18	Clarence Einkauf	9/27	Briana Kent
9/05	Ella Niemann	9/10	Cory Barrett	9/18	Kari Furey	9/28	Stacie Leiber
9/05	Leisha Wied	9/10	Aaron Kutra	9/19	KAELEE CARR		



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

9/02/1967	Larry and Fay Alexander	9/15/2020	Gavin and Mary Ann Thompson	
9/07/2002	Jason and Kellie Kainer	9/19/1998	Robert and Marie Herridge	
9/08/1990	Tracy and Marty Schiller	9/20/2008	Dewayne and Kari Furey	
9/12/1998	David and Brenda Cash	9/20/1980	Brad and Maggie Kent	
9/12/2015	Al and Codi Konecheck	9/25/2009	Danny and Stephanie Darrow	



Prayers for Nursing Home and Shut Ins



For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:6 Carrie Steinbach, Home, 1252 Eagle Lake Rd. #12 Sealy, TX 77474 Joyce Meyer, Colonial Belle, 1401 Eagle Lake Rd. Sealy, TX 7747

**TJTHES & 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.

Betty Remmert is looking for someone to take over the plants in the atrium. Please contact the church office or Betty Remmert at 979-627-5171.



## THE BLESSING BOX PROJECT

Next Blessing Box Project is Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church gym. Each Blessing Box includes a mastectomy pillow and a drain shirt, along with a few special trinkets

designed to lift spirits for the ones with breast cancer. Come and join these ladies or for more information, please call Ruth Szymanski at 979-885-9504. This project is growing, and we can use you!



## **PROJECT FOR LWML** )

**Collecting Diapers all year long!** (Trinity Lutheran Women in Mission) I would like to say thank

you to each one who is supporting this year's LCMS "March Behind the Cross." It was humbling to see the outpouring of support from you. It is reassuring to see that we can all work together to make a difference in these young mothers' lives. "Let's overload the Diaper Bank for the Sealy Pregnancy Center every Sunday, bring baby items to place in the marked box in the narthex. Thanks, and God's blessings!

## Aletha Jeske



# Circle of Friends for September Begins

Come join us for Circle of Friends Luncheon and Fellowship on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at

12:15 pm. Please call Mary Buechmann if you have any questions. 979-885-2730 or Cell 281-728-0973. Please sign up on the sign-up list in the narthex if you are planning to attend. By the way...desserts are always welcome!



## Preschool Pancake Breakfast Social & Free Will Offering

The preschool starts off the year by having a Pancake Breakfast Social with a Free Will Offering as the cost for the pancakes and sausage and the rest of the proceeds help with the cost of FBI background checks or CPR and First Aid.

This will take place on **Monday September 11<sup>th</sup> 7:45 am - 8:30 am.** What makes this special is the day after Grandparents Day, for those who enjoy eating with their grandchildren.

This is a great time for the parents to have that special time with their children while getting to know other parents, teachers, children, and church members.

Church members come and meet some of the parents and children. You may know a few of them. Or come and enjoy pancakes and sausage among other church members.

If you are not able to make the pancake social, you can donate to a Free Will Offering to the preschool.

Hope to see everyone, Ms. Maggie

## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

August 9, 2023, Amount of Deposit \$221.00.

(IT IS EASY, JUST CALL)

Please take time and call 1-800-847-4836 and designate your funds to Trinity Lutheran General Fund.



## WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Morning Bible

Study meets every Wednesday from 10-11 am beginning September 6th. Please meet in the glass room by the church office depending on how many attending.



ADULT VOLLEYBALL

Come and join us every third Monday of the month for adult volleyball here at Trinity at 6:30 pm starting September 18th!

**School Kit Project** We need your help to make LWR School Kits

Please place items in the container located in the narthex.

## School Kit Collection

- Four 70-sheet notebooks
- One 30-centimeter rulers
- One Pencil sharpeners
- One Blunt scissors
- Five Unsharpened #2 pencils
- Five Black/blue ballpoint pens
- One Boxes of 16 or 24 crayor
- One Pencil sharpeners
- One 2 ½" erasers



## SERVING AT TRINITY we

Lutherar World Relief

are needing able men and women to serve in several positions to further God's kingdom. Please consider serving in one of the following

services of our congregation: President, Vice President, Stewardship, Board of Christian

Education and Fellowship/Evangelism. Contact a council member or call the church office if you are interested in serving our congregation.

## Duties of Officers and Boards PRESIDENT

The President shall:

- 1. Preside at all Congregational Meetings and all meetings of the Church Council.
- 2. Endeavor to coordinate the functions and activities of the Congregation of the furtherance of Christ's kingdom in our midst.
- 3. Be an ex-officio member, without vote, on all committees and boards.
- 4. Have the authority to sign checks in the absence of the treasurer for disbursement of Congregational funds.
- 5. Enforce the Constitution and Bylaws of the Congregation.
- 6. Carry out the expressed will of the Congregation as embodied in the resolutions of the Congregation and Church Council meetings.
- 7. Be subject to approval by the Church Council in:
  - a. filling unexpired terms of office by appointment
  - b. appointing committees as needed.
- 8. Schedule a semi-annual planning meeting to determine a church calendar.

## VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall:

- 1. Assume the office of the President if the President resigns or leaves the Congregation.
- 2. Assume the duties of the President in the event of the absence, disability, or disqualification of the President.
- 3. Serve as the Chairman of the Long-Range Planning Committee.

#### THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

It is the duty of the Board of Stewardship to:

- 1. Initiate programs for the development of good stewardship attitudes in the members of the Congregation regarding the use of their time, talents, and treasures.
- 2. To provide for the training and utilization of members of the congregation for the work of Christ's Kingdom.
- 3. Ensure the financial stability of the Congregation and its work through a

developed program of dedicated, proportionate, first-fruits giving.

- 4. Present a proposed budget to the October Congregational Meeting by compiling the budget requests submitted by each Board of the Congregation.
- 5. Ensure that the offering from the collection plates is counted and placed in the proper deposit bag(s) after each worship service, including special services such as Lent and Advent, and that the deposit bag(s) is(are) then placed in the night deposit box at the bank after the service of that day.
- 6. See that accurate records are kept of contributions given by individual envelopes or checks, and that individual reports of contributions are prepared for the members of the congregation.

## BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL EVANGELISM/FELLOWSHIP OUTREACH

It is the duty of the Board of Congregational Fellowship Outreach to:

- 1. Lead the Congregation in reaching out to unchurched people in order to draw them into the saving grace of Christ and His gospel.
- 2. Develop plans and goals for evangelistic outreach.
- 3. Conduct outreach actions and activities.
- 4. Provide for incorporation of new members into the Congregation.
- 5. Provide opportunities through which members can grow in their skills at sharing the Gospel of Christ with others.
- 6. Plan and coordinate activities to strengthen the spiritual and social fellowship between members of the Congregation.
- 7. Provide programs to meet the needs of special groups such as single adults, senior adults, and others which the fellowship board may identify in cooperation with other boards and committees.
- 8. Be responsible for all forms of publicity of the congregation and activities in order to further the goals of the Congregation.

Dear Heavenly Father, we come before You today with hearts full of gratitude and love for our future church leaders. We humbly ask that You guide, strengthen, and protect our future leaders in their ministry to serve the church. Amen.





To my preschool parents, I want to let you know that Trinity Lutheran Preschool is off to a good start. Even though we have new learning tools, toys, stems, practical life, math, science, language and new preschool

furniture, shelves, cubbies, and new fantastic floors and cabinets, we need students! Please pray for the preschool program for the enrollment to increase. I want to say thank you parents for choosing our school where Teaching Begins with Jesus! I have faith that the preschool will be growing in a year or two due to the increase of families coming to Sealy.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool staff attended the Sealy School conference last month. Our teachers are well trained with what is required to teach the children and prepare them for kindergarten. We have in the past and we will continue to attend the Sealy School conferences to make sure we are teaching what the school is requested as to academics.

We now have one class of two's, threes, and fours. The two classes at the other end of the gym are closed for this year. If for some reason, we increase in numbers then we will have to move preschoolers around to different classes.

Preschool Teachers for 2023-2024 are: Ana Oviedo – Two-Year-Old Class Shea Orsak –Three-Year-Old Class Kristi Flores – Four-Year-Old Class Robin Jacobson – Asst. Director Maggie Kent - Director

As preschool teachers we want our preschoolers to know and experience the incredible love of Christ Jesus, our Savior. God calls us to pass on our faith to the children so that they may walk with Jesus all the days of their lives. We play. We sing. We read. We model. We pray. Together with our preschoolers, we invite Jesus into our day-to-day routines. We show our children, the goodness of God's love through celebrating the blessings and trusting Him each day.

The preschool doors will open at 8:00 am and will be locked at 8:15 am. Please arrive by 8:00 am and no later than 8:15 am since the teachers begin their class as soon as your child walks through the door. We all know the importance of starting a day off right!

Young children need structure and routines to feel secure in their preschool environment. By having a clear morning routine to start the day at preschool, children will know what to expect and feel safe at school. Put yourself in your child's position if the person you are depending on gets you to work late, how would you feel? It is not fun for your child to begin their day when you throw off their schedule and cause anxiety and unhappiness when you drop them off to preschool. Your child wants to be here when the other children arrive and enjoy their friendship. By allowing your child time to adjust to the classroom, friends, teacher, and environment will help them feel included and it will have a positive feeling for the rest of the day. Teachers begin the morning with instructions as simple as placing their backpacks where they belong or name recognition that they will miss out on if they are late. There are many things happening early when these children arrive. Teaching Begins at 8:00 am!

#### September Creation/Self/Bible/Friendship/ Manners/Nursery Rhymes Themes

and Grandparents Day. The spiritual emphasis is to help children discover that the Bible tells us about God and His creation. The children will learn letters, numbers, shapes, and colors. Throughout the year we have a teaching calendar and children learn matching, go-together, sequencing, lotto's, letter sound matches, categorizing, picture sound matches and much more. Ongoing skills are practiced every day, such as listening, following directions, and manners.

Learning centers allow the children to play cooperatively and investigate language, roles, materials, and relationships and encourage children to learn at their own pace with material that meets individual needs and level of development. While children learn through play, they can learn essential skills such as problem solving, working with others, sharing and much more. In turn, this helps them develop the ability to concentrate.

The children will start off with the Bible stories during Chapel on how God created the world. Children will learn songs; finger plays and pledges and memorize Bible verses. Listen to your child and all the wonderful things they learn in the classroom, in Chapel and while playing.



Red/White/Blue Day! The children can wear Red/White and Blue for Patriot Day on Friday, September 11<sup>th.</sup> The colors RED/WHITE and BLUE will represent the 911 tragedy. We are going to focus on the fact that so many heroes came out of 9/11 to step up to do the right thing. Even animals can be heroes.

Preschool Pancake Social! The preschool starts off the year by having a Pancake Breakfast Social with a Free Will Offering as the cost for the pancakes and sausage and the rest of the proceeds help with the cost of FBI background checks or CPR and First Aid.

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Church members come and meet some of the parents and children. You may know a few of them. Or come and enjoy pancakes and sausage among other church members.

If you are not able to make the pancake social, you can donate to a Free Will Offering to the preschool.



911 Safety! Retired State Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will come to the center on Wednesday, September 20th at 10:15 am to talk to the children about the importance

of safety. He will also talk to the children about the importance of seat belt safety and why car seats are very important.

It is important that children know what to do during an emergency, especially if an adult is not present. Children need to know how to call 911, and conversely, they need to know that they should NOT call 911 unless there is an emergency.

Retired Trooper Gary will talk to the children about the person on the other line of 911 who is called a dispatcher and emergency responder. Depending on the call center, emergency dispatchers must follow certain protocols. Sometimes those involve asking very specific questions, and then giving commands.

He will tell the children that it's ok to give information to the dispatcher and then follow their directions. It could be lifesaving! It's always important that children don't answer the door for just anyone. First responders will always announce themselves and it's important that they know and understand it is okay to open the door for first responders and begin treating the injured person. These are all very important lessons for all children to learn.

Wear RED Day! Since the children are learning red for the month, we will have a special color day. On Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, the children can come to preschool dressed in something RED to reinforce the color of the month!



Back Yard Bash! On Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, all the preschoolers will have a BACK YARD BASH Day! Each child needs to bring a sack lunch with a drink to school and enjoy

the day outside playing! This is a great way for all the children to get to know one another, have fun and create memories. Let's pray that we will have nice weather to enjoy. If not, we will have Trinity's beautiful gym for the children to enjoy their lunch.



Special Book Week! Beginning Monday September 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> preschool will have Special Book Week! Another way we make reading fun is to have your child bring their

favorite book from home (please label with name.) The teacher will read some of the books and let the children share their books with one another. Children can tell each other their story books and open a world of imagination.

Reading is very important in a young child's life. Encouraging reading is important and we try to make it fun! It gives them an opportunity to listen, explore, and imagine what triggers their brain to answer questions after a story is read. Let's get ready to read!



Bring Snacks for Your Child Each Day! DO NOT BRING A DRINK!!!! We Will Serve Water! Please bring simple snacks in a plastic zipper snack bag each day for your

child. Ideas are cheese nips, any kind of cereals. Sandwich crackers, pretzels, goldfish or whatever you think your child will eat. This is a snack and not a meal. The children have a ten-minute snack time.



Action Plan or Emergency Response Plan Mandatory by the State is required by your doctor if your child is allergic to

certain foods, asthmatic and or needs an EpiPen. The purpose of this Emergency Response Plan is to establish an organizational structure and procedures for response to major emergencies. It assigns the roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the plan during an emergency following the incident. If you have any questions, please come and talk to me.



Extra Clothing! Please send an extra set of clothes in a Ziploc bag labeled with your Top, bottom, underwear, child's name. socks, and old shoes in case they pee on their socks and shoes. It is very important that we have an extra



Family of the Week! Family of the week is a program we have that helps children share their family with everyone

at preschool and church. Each week a family will be chosen to be Family of the Week.

set of clothes in case of spills or accidents.

What this entails is that your child brings about seven 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 for the month of September are:

> September 11<sup>th</sup> – September 15<sup>th</sup> Royce Beckendorff September 18<sup>th</sup> – September 22<sup>nd</sup> Harper Brennan September 25<sup>th</sup> – September 29<sup>th</sup> Nickolas Brown

Please bring about eight to ten pictures to your child's teacher the Friday before your child is family of the week.

## **U**SCHOLASTIC

A variety of Scholastic Book Club flyers are sent home with your child. These clubs serve as a convenient way for families to obtain quality books to enjoy at home. When books are purchased, your child's class receives bonus points that are used to acquire new books and educational supplies.

There is no obligation to participate in this program. Books can be ordered either by turning in the order form from the back of the club flyer or through the Scholastic Book Club website. When you order books

using the paper order form, please make checks payable to Scholastic. Cash is not accepted. To pay by credit card, purchase your books using the club website (clubs.scholastic.com), entering the class activation code from your child's teacher to ensure that TLP receives your order. It takes one to two weeks after the order due date for the books to arrive.



Reinforcement! Parents, please help the teachers with the rules of the preschool at home. If your child comes home with a behavior report or the teacher lets you know about your child's day and there was inappropriate behavior, please reinforce and talk to your child about what happened at preschool. Please help him/her understand the circumstances of inappropriate and appropriate behavior.

The first two weeks of preschool are rules and manners. Ask your child what the rules are in the classroom, snack time, chapel, playground, and gym. When all of us are working together to reinforce the rules, this makes transition easier for your child and the teacher.



**Drills!** The preschool conducts monthly fire we drills. This is not to frighten the children but to have them prepared in case of a fire. Other drills conducted every three months are severe

weather, reverse evacuation, shelter in place and lock If your child comes home and says we down drills. had a fire or disaster today, you will know why.



Emergency Preparedness Plan! Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool is required by state law and has an Emergency/Disaster Plan to provide safe care for our children, should an

emergency or disaster occur during the program day. Relocation in case of a disaster will be the Austin County Bank located across the street from the within church and is walking distance. Α Parent/Guardian from each family is asked to sign that they have knowledge and have reviewed the Disaster Preparedness Plan. When you sign the Parent Handbook Contract this is acknowledgment for the state that you are aware of our Disaster Plan.

I would like to thank all the parents in helping with the emergency plan by providing items needed that help defray the cost to the preschool program. The food not used will be donated to the Christian Food Pantry at the end of the year. This is another way to help the preschool and others in the community.

feed Please your child **Breakfast Policy** breakfast at home before preschool begins. Bringing breakfast to school interrupts the rest of the children. If your child does bring breakfast to school, please take him/her to the gym and sit down with your child and finish breakfast. You are responsible for your child to eat breakfast and bring them to the classroom. Your child must be

brought to the classroom by you. Please do not let them come to the classroom by themselves.

Late Pick Up Please be on time to pick up your child at NOON! A late fee of \$1.00 per minute will be added to your tuition. Please be on time!



September tuition is due by the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. All tuition is due by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## TUTION, FEES, AND FUNDING

Tuition is due in advance with no deductions for any absences, holidays, illness, or closures due to inclement

weather, power outages, or other situations beyond Trinity Lutheran Preschool's control. If tuition is not paid on the day that it is due, a late fee will be added to the tuition for each day that it is late until it is paid in full. When a payment is delinquent for one week or more, care may be suspended until the balance is current and your child's space will not be reserved. Tuition is due regardless of a child's absence from the program for any reason and is required to hold a child's space. Our policy for tuition is as follows:

- All accounts are due on the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Statements come home with each child's monthly newsletter, generally sent home on the last week of the previous month.
- If tuition is not paid by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, then a late charge of \$5.00 per day will be added to that month's tuition. All fees must be paid by the first of the following month or your child cannot attend until all fees are paid in full. The late charge will not exceed \$50.00 each month.
- After the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, you will be notified by a board member to decide for the balance due or dismissal of care.

**Termination** Because of the long-term benefits of participation in highquality early childhood programs, our goal is not to suspend or expel a child from care. Instead, we attempt to collaborate with parents to bring the needed resources and strategies to a situation.

Our hope is that these efforts will result in suspensions and expulsions only being used where are extraordinary circumstances there or a determination of a serious safety threat. While we will efforts to reduce or eliminate such make circumstances and/or threats with the provision of reasonable modifications, we reserve the right to suspend or expel in any situation we deem necessary.

We can and will terminate our childcare arrangements immediately for any of the following reasons (but not solely limited to): Failure to comply with the contract.

Destructive or hurtful behavior of child that persists even with parent cooperation in stopping the behavior.

Non-Payment of childcare fees or late and/or recurring late payment of fees.

Failure to show up for 5 days in a row without any communication.

Failure to complete required forms.

Inability to meet the child's needs without additional staff.

Rude and disrespectful behavior towards provider or any employee.

If parents knowingly bring their child ill to school. Conflict between parent / provider.

Extreme Behavior.

PARTY GUIDENNES

We have five special parties a year, Harvest, Christmas, Valentine,

Easter and End of School party and we ask parents to help with refreshments and supervision of games.

A sign-up list will be posted for parents to help with the activity centers and food items. This will be a first come first serve base. Parents that sign up for a particular party are the ones that can attend. We need parents help by setting up and supervising the activities centers. Supervised activity centers will be on 20-minute increments. Special food and game items will be on the list for parents to purchase and provide for the parties.

A kitchen crew will be needed to prepare the food and drinks and set up the children's tables ready for them to eat and have the kitchen clean before leaving.

We ask all parents to help by setting up the party, tearing down the activity centers, cleaning kitchen, wiping tables, sweeping, and taking out the trash.

The purpose of volunteering is to make sure children are safe, lower stress on everyone, work as a team and have fun with the preschoolers. Since we are a nonprofit organization, we appreciate your help in donating items and your time for the parties.

CHAPEL SERVICES A beautiful Sunday for the SINGING IN children to participate and CHURCH front sing in of the congregation and their families. This is usually a Sunday in February or March. Everyone's heart fills with joy to hear these children perform. We ask that you set this Sunday aside for your family and watch your preschooler perform songs they learned in Chapel. Thank you for choosing Trinity Lutheran Preschool, a private school teaching and preparing your child for the future! In Christ, Ms. Maggie



August and September Church Council Minutes will be in October Newsletter.