



TRINITY TIDBITS

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

Building His Body By
Reflecting the Son



Good to Be True

The young lady by the name of Connie was applying for a new job. During the interview she asked if the company would pay for her medical insurance. The interviewer replied that the cost of medical insurance was deducted from the employee's paycheck.

Connie continued though, "The last place I worked, the company paid for it and my life insurance also.

"And your dental insurance, too," asked the interviewer. "Yes, they did," she answered. "Not only that, but we got unlimited sick leave, a month's paid vacation, a large Christmas bonus, two-hour lunch breaks, and free childcare."

"So, why did you leave such a perfect place of employment?" asked the interviewer.

She replied, "The company went bankrupt!"

A deal like that for employment seems too good to be true, and it usually is. That's the way many, if not most, things are in life. If the deal appears to be very much to your advantage, then most likely it is a gimmick or a scam or a complete joke.

St. Paul writes to the Roman Christians and to us:

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:21-26)

Those words seem too good to be true. Yes, we have fallen short of the glory of God, yet we are saved by God's free gift to us through Jesus Christ. This is not a gimmick. This is not a scam. This is not a joke. This is completely true, right, and salutary. God blesses us with life that brings no cost to us. It does cost the life of His Son, Jesus but for us, it's free. This is "Good to be true" for us!

It is now that we live in God's grace and mercy. Why do we do the things we do, such as trying to keep God's commandments? It's not because we are trying to earn our way into God's righteousness. It's simply because we are God's sons and daughters only because of His undeserved love for us through Jesus, His Son!

Good to be true!

In Christ, Jesus, our Lord,

Pastor Ken



2023

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am

Sunday School
For All Ages

Worship Service

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

kjbbersche@gmail.com

979-885-2211

ELDERS

Lowell Coody

Joel Grigar

Doyle Kornegay

Mark Romano

Tracy Schiller

Ronnie Schmidt

Stephen Stuessel

Barry Wolf

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

10/01	Lorrene Schiller	10/05	Cade Langton	10/14	Doris Schaffner	10/25	Danny Darrow
10/02	Gilbert Franke	10/05	Jill Sullivan	10/15	Beth Franke	10/25	Jeannette Simmons
10/03	Stephen Franklin	10/06	Grace Holtkamp	10/18	Maggie Kent	10/27	Kelly Kruzel
10/03	Rachel Villalovoz	10/07	MASON DZIADEK	10/18	TYLER RAMON	10/28	DESTIN STEINHAUSER
10/04	Joel Grigar	10/08	Barbara Havemann	10/18	WADE WILKERSON	10/29	Pastor Ken Bersche
10/04	Nathan Romano	10/09	Ronnie Thrasher	10/18	WYATT WILKERSON	10/29	Timothy Ramon
10/04	Larry Schulke	10/12	Ursula Kutra	10/20	Vera Schmidt	10/31	Robert Herridge
10/04	Dorothy Sliva	10/12	April Schmidt	10/21	Dianne Clover	10/31	Betty Remmert
10/05	Lee Hobratschk	10/13	WILLIAM FULLEN	10/24	Bryant Schiller	10/31	Patricia Rother
10/05	MICAH KRUZEL						

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

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

10/04/1997	Bryant & Melinda Schiller	10/20/2011	Brett & Brittany Carter
10/16/1993	Mark & Patsy Romano	10/31/2021	Megan and Alex Castro



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

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.

Next Sunday, October 8th is Worship and MISSION SUNDAY POTLUCK! Our guest speaker will be Rev. Dale Leland. Please use designated "Mission" offering envelopes for giving to Missions next Sunday. Thank you!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

September 7, 2023, Amount of Deposit \$68.00.

(IT IS EASY, JUST CALL) Please take time and call 1-800-847-4836 and designate your funds to Trinity Lutheran General Fund.



REMINDER CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL OFFICES are closed Thursday and Friday, October 12th & 13th for Austin County Fair Parade and Rodeo.



Thank you! To the wonderful congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church, I would like to send out a huge thank you for all the kind thoughts, well wishes, and sweet prayers sent my way as I underwent those four back surgeries over the past few years. Your caring words truly touched my heart. I'm very blessed to now be back on my feet and on the right path to recovery. Teddy bear hugs to all!

Kindly,
Sabrina Schiller



THE LADIES AID thanks everyone for the food, washing dishes, setting up and taking down tables for Ron Hartmann's Memorial. We could not have done this without you!

Thank you, Antoinette Romano

THE BLESSING BOX PROJECT

Next Blessing Box Project is Wednesday, October 11th 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

TLWM-Trinity Lutheran
Women in Mission

MidCoast Rally - Contact Aletha Jeske or Beth Franke if you would like to attend the MidCoast Rally Day in Edna, Texas. This will be Sunday, October 29th at 2:30 pm. **Aletha Jeske**



October Circle of Friends

Come join us for Circle of Friends Luncheon and Fellowship on Wednesday, October 4, 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!

On September 11, 2023, Preschool Grandparents Pancake Breakfast Social Made \$148.00 and after Expenses! Thank you, Ms. Maggie



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets every Wednesday from 10-11 am. 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!



SERVING AT TRINITY

The Annual Congregational Meeting will consist of voting on certain positions for Church Council and our Annual Budget Meeting. Contact a council member or call the church office if you are interested in serving our congregation on the church council.

CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

THE ANNUAL

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will take place after church on Sunday, October 29, 2023. Please attend church and stay for the meeting. Budget sheets are in the narthex. Please pick one up to view.



With our low enrollment, we can really bond with the children and their parents. It is like a family. We have an amazing God who is in control of everything. The teachers and I are so pleased to have these preschoolers begin their young lives teaching them about Jesus. It is sad that the ones that decide to go to public school, and who do not attend church, will most likely not know about Jesus. Praying these children will have friends later in life who attend church and may tell them about Jesus.

**PRESCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE**

Preschool Open House will take place on Wednesday, October 25th 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend this event, including the congregation. Parents you may bring grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends, and family. This is a great time for everyone to come together and see some of the work the children have completed and for the families and friends to visit classrooms and teachers. Here are my Open House Night suggestions for parents from a teacher's point of view. Go early. This evening is somewhat social, and you might want time to chat with other parents. The preschool teachers and their classrooms are on display. Make this a positive experience for your child and everyone.



Western Day! On Tuesday, October 10th, the children may dress in western clothes for Western Day to promote Austin County Fair. Each child may dress in western jeans, boots, shirts, belts, hats, and a bandana. If your child decides to wear spurs, this is fine, except if they are hurting another child, then the spurs will be removed. Let's get out our cowboy hats and boots!



Gun Safety! On Thursday, October 19th, Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will come to the preschool to talk to the children about Gun Safety. Mr. Gary, as the children call him, knows that a lot of children go hunting with their dads and grandpas and would like to keep the little ones safe. Mr. Gary will also explain to the children the importance of what to do if you find a gun, for example, at a friend's house. What do you do with a gun? Mr. Gary will also talk about how to use play guns and not to point guns at others. Let's see what the children can learn during Gun Safety!



Wear Blue Day! Since we are learning blue for the month, we would like the children to wear something BLUE to preschool on Tuesday, October 24th. Children can wear blue clothes, socks, shoes, hair bows, neckties or whatever you can think of to reinforce blue!



Harvest Party! The preschool Harvest Party for the entire preschool will be Tuesday, October 31st 9:30 am-10:30 am. We would like the children to come dressed as one of Noah Ark's animals. We have in the past had great and unique costumes, such as ladybugs, puppy dogs, sheep, kitty cats, cows, and lots more. There are so many simple ways to dress your child as an animal without spending a lot of money.

There will be a sign-up list for refreshments and games. We need parents to help in supervising the children with games that the preschool provides. I will need help with setting up, tearing down, wiping tables and chairs, sweeping, and cleaning the kitchen after the party.

If you can help with games or refreshments, please place your name on the sign-up list. Only parents that sign up to help with the party by supervising activity stations can attend. Whoever signs up first will be able to come and help with the party. We will have more parties throughout the year for you to participate.



Carving Pumpkin Day We will carve pumpkins on Wednesday, November 1st. The preschoolers will have a blast to help clean out the pumpkin and listen how God uses a pumpkin. Not only does God wash us clean from the outside,

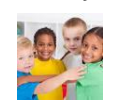
but he also removes our sin, and in doing that we are washed clean and made new from the inside out. This is a new creation, a jack-o-lantern, with a joy-filled face. Jesus does that with us.



Themes for the month of October are Family, Fire, Fall, Leaves, Harvest and Pumpkins. The color for the month is BLUE, the shapes are circle and rectangle, and the children will continue to learn the letters i, m, f, s, a, and d. We teach the children the sounds and names of these letters. Using picture boxes or object boxes helps the children to recognize the name and sounds to the first batch of letters to begin putting silly words together. Children will continue learning go-togethers, matching, categorizing etc.



Fire Prevention! The Sealy Fire Department will come to the preschool on Friday, October 20th at 10:00 am. They will teach the children to stop, drop and roll in case of a fire. Children will enjoy the morning with the Sealy Fire Department as they learn about Fire Safety, since October is Fire Prevention Month. One of the important things that the firemen will teach the children is not to be afraid of them or hide from them in case they are in a burning house. Firemen are there to help and rescue them even though their equipment may be scary. The firemen will also teach the children how important an escape route is for the entire family and the importance of smoke detectors. This is an important lesson, please try to have your child at school.



Social Focus for the preschoolers will be thankful that God loves and protects us our family and friends. Family and God and how to be obedient to our parents, loving each other unconditionally, contributing to the household and how these values reflect God's values for people. Following directions is one of the most important social skills that children develop. Be it in the classroom, at home with the family or on the sporting field, a child who can listen, understand, and then follow instructions and directions will go a long way.



Reminder Preschool is closed for Austin County Fair and Rodeo, Wed. Thurs. and Fri. October 11th 12th and 13th.



Chapel Time Children have been learning the First Commandment and this month we are adding the 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. They will continue The Lord's prayer. The monthly Bible verse is "God is Love." (1 John 4:8)

Bible Stories for the month of October are:

<p>Week of Monday Oct. 2nd Isaac's Blessing pg. 58 Jacob's Dream pg. 63 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Jacob and Esau Meet Again pg. 66 Joseph's Colorful Coat pg. 71</p>	<p>Week of Monday Oct. 23rd The Red Sea pg. 111 Food From Heaven pg. 116 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Ten Commandments pg. 120 Twelve Spies pg. 124 Joshua and the Spies pg. 128</p>
<p>Week of Monday Oct. 9th Pharaoh's Dreams pg. 78 Joseph Saves His Family pg. 86</p>	<p>Week of Monday Oct. 30th - Nov. 3rd The Battle of Jericho pg. 132 Deborah Leads the Way pg. 136 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Gideon's Battle pg. 140 Samson pg. 146 Ruth and Naomi pg. 152</p>
<p>Week of Monday Oct. 16th A Baby in a Basket pg. 92 Chapel with Pastor Bersche The Burning Bush pg. 98 Ten Plagues pg. 104</p>	



Family of the Week!

Families of the week for October are:

<p>Week of Monday Oct. 2nd Colby Bermea</p>	<p>Week of Monday Oct. 23rd Katie Bruce</p>
<p>Week of Monday Oct. 9th NO FAMIY (FAIR)</p>	<p>Week of Monday Oct. 30th Willow Eckert</p>
<p>Week of Monday Oct. 16th Hailie Brown</p>	

Please bring five to ten pictures of his/her family to be placed on the preschool bulletin board in the gym. Be sure to check your calendar of events to see your turn to be family of the week.



BOO BASH! The City of Sealy's BOO BASH is Tuesday, October 31st! Come and visit Trinity Lutheran Preschool's Booth between 5 pm & 8 pm to get candy and play a game.



Thank you to all the parents in helping reinforce the rules of the preschool. If your child comes home with a behavior report or the teacher lets you know about your child's day with inappropriate behavior, thank you for reinforcing and talking to your child about what happened at preschool. Please help him/her understand the circumstances of inappropriate and appropriate behavior.



One thing that is coming up is the Fantasy of Lights on Saturday, December 2nd. The theme is Christmas

Circus.

God's Blessings, Ms. Maggie



**AUGUST & SEPTEMBER
TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 21, 2023**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by Terry Hankins. Patricia Rother presented the devotion.

Council members present:

- Terry Hankins – President
- Casey Picard – Vice President
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- Pastor Bersche
- Patricia Rother – Christian Growth Chairman
- Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Karina Carr - Preschool

Absent:

- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- George Wied – Trustee Chairman

The Minutes from the meeting held on July 10, 2023, were presented for review and approval. Casey Picard made a motion to accept the minutes. Patricia Rother seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- Budget - please make sure to send your approval of any changes to Janice Wied as soon as possible.

Chairmen Reports:

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

- July Report - As of July 31, 2023, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$7,461.90. The Building Fund balance was \$29,409.45 and the Designated Fund balance was \$87,879.50. The Total of All Funds was \$124,750.85. The total contributions for July were \$25,581.20 and total expenses for July were \$25,322.62. The total contributions for the year 2023 were \$153,945.20 while the total expenses for the year were \$154,994.81.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Media/sound system donations received this month totaled \$700.00.
- HVAC donations received this month totaled \$150.00.

Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Casey Picard – Vice President

- Nothing to report.

Pastor Bersche

- Shut-in visits continue for 11 of our members.
- Sunday Morning Bible Class will be studying Matthew 10.
- Wednesday Morning Bible Class will begin September 6 and will be studying “The Chosen”.
- There will be a Confirmation Parent’s Meeting on Sunday, August 27.

Patricia Rother - Christian Growth Chairman

- Rally Day is scheduled for September 10.

Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- The little yellow pantry in the front of the fellowship building will be taken down temporarily for some minor repairs. It will be replaced in early November.

George Wied – Trustee Chairman

- Nothing to report.

David Novosad – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Karina Carr – Preschool

- The preschool had to release a teacher due to a decline in registration.

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

New Business

- None

There being no further business, Noah Hankins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Novosad seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned and Pastor Bersche closed with prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, September 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. and Pastor Bersche will have the devotion.

Terry Hankins - President
Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary



**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2023**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by Terry Hankins. Pastor Bersche presented the devotion.

Council members present:

- Terry Hankins – President
- Casey Picard – Vice President
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- Pastor Bersche
- Patricia Rother – Christian Growth Chairman
- Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Karina Carr - Preschool

Absent:

- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- George Wied – Trustee Chairman

The Minutes from the meeting held on August 21, 2023, were presented for review and approval. David Novosad made a motion to accept the minutes. Casey Picard seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- None

Chairmen Reports:

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

- August Report - As of August 31, 2023, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$7,850.60. The Building Fund balance was \$30,757.98 and the Designated Fund balance was \$84,814.50. The Total of All Funds was \$123,423.08. The total contributions for August were \$20,264.00 and total expenses for August were \$22,897.22. The total contributions for

the year 2023 were \$174,209.20 while the total expenses for the year were \$177,892.03.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Media/sound system donations received this month totaled \$150.00.
- No HVAC donations received this month.

Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman (report given by Terry Hankins)

- Still in the process of looking for a full-time pianist/organist.
- Looking into changing the interior key deadbolts in the sanctuary to latches for safety reasons.
- Reviewing 2024 Proposed Budget for Trinity.

Casey Picard – Vice President

- Nothing to report.

Pastor Bersche

- Mission Festival is set for October 8 with Pastor Leland officiating the service.
- Official Acts:
 - Memorial Service for Ron Hartman on August 27.

Patricia Rother - Christian Growth Chairman

- Rally Day was a success.
- Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Mission Sunday Potluck is set for October 8th.
- George Wied – Trustee Chairman
- Nothing to report.
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Nothing to report.
- Karina Carr – Preschool
- The teacher who was released last month was able to return due to an anonymous donor.
- Research is being conducted for “After School Care” for those attending preschool at Trinity.
- The preschool will have to add a section in the Preschool Handbook to cover required student accommodations when proper documentation is provided by the parents/guardians.
- Preschool is also looking into hosting an “Active Shooter” training for the

preschool and anyone from the church wanting to attend.

- Preschool checking account balance as of 9/10/2023 was \$116,110.00. Savings balance was \$505.00.

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

New Business

- None

There being no further business, Noah Hankins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Novosad seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned and Pastor Bersche closed with prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 9, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. and Janice Wied will have the devotion.

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

SERVING OTHERS

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. - 1 Peter 4:10

DEVOTION:

Sundays at my house growing up were chaotic. It was a mess of brushing teeth and hair, tying shoes, buttoning dresses, and trying to get out the door on time. We were rarely successful. Once we got to church, we rushed to our places. My Dad went to the sound booth, and my mom went to teach Sunday School. After church, we went home, and the rush was back on. We had to clean the house and cook food because people were always coming over. My parents hosted a small group at our house on Sunday afternoons. On any given week, 20 or more people were headed to our house for dinner.

I remember asking my mom why we had to do so much on Sundays, why couldn't we just sleep in and stay home? She was always very clear that on Sundays we go to church and worship the Lord. I didn't realize this at the time, but my mom was teaching me that

worshiping God is about so much more than showing up to a building and singing a few songs. My parents were modeling for my sisters and me what it looks like to worship God by stewarding the gifts he has given us. My Dad had a background in all things' technology, so he ran the sound booth at the church on Sundays and for various events. My Mom loves to teach, so she led Sunday School and all the kid's events with her friend. We had a house with space for people, so they invited anyone and everyone over for food and fellowship. Whatever we had, they were willing to use it to serve God and others.

My parents didn't serve with perfection: sometimes a sound cue got missed or coloring pages didn't get copied correctly. My parents served faithfully and consistently. They showed us what it looks like to live with open hands and share what God has given you with your community. Whether that's your time, your home, your talents, or your money, it can all be used to serve God and others.

1 Peter 4:10 reminds me that everyone has something that they can contribute to the Kingdom of God and use to serve others. It is our responsibility as Christ-followers to be faithful stewards of what God has given us by being obedient to him. We can trust that God will be faithful with the results of our obedience.

***Maddie Flores
Director, Kids Early Childhood***

Help me to see the needs of those around me and be willing to step in and help in any way I can. Whether it's offering a kind word, a listening ear, or a helping hand, please give me the courage and compassion to serve others selflessly.