



Building His Body By

Reflecting the Son

# TRINITY TIDBITS

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



## Why Do We Celebrate “Thanksgiving”?

I have to admit it, I do NOT look forward to Thanksgiving Eve this year!

Your response is probably, “WHAT?!?” Isn’t it important to be thankful?

The answer to that question is, “Absolutely, it is very important.” So let me explain.

When we celebrate this thing called, “Thanksgiving”, who are we being thankful to and how is this done? Let me remind you that last year’s Thanksgiving Eve Worship attendance was only 24 people. It makes me wonder where were the other 70 or 80, since those numbers added together is our average Sunday morning worship attendance. (Ringing in the similarity of when Jesus healed the ten lepers and only one returned to give thanks. Jesus responds to the one Samaritan, “Where are the other nine?”) Yet, there are a lot of people in our family of faith who do go out of town for the holiday. I guess this is me, your pastor, complaining not necessarily about attendance for worship but wondering where are our priorities?

It goes without saying, but most of the people living in the United States really don’t have the true concept of Thanksgiving. Instead, Thanksgiving becomes “Turkey Day” or the day where we put aside our diets and eat to our heart’s content. In this mindset, there really is no thanks to be given and the day is only a time set aside for gluttony.

Maybe, this time of year we should be reminded, where we would be and what we would be without our Almighty God and His Son, Jesus. Although, we do take most things in life for granted until something goes wrong. Jesus on the other hand, has never and never will take us for granted. Even in the times we are ungrateful, He is still faithful. He still calls us to repentance and still forgives us of our sins, even the times we are not thankful. He forgives us even the moment in life we when are only thinking of ourselves.

This Thanksgiving and everyday let us give thanks to God. Let us be in public worship. Let us receive His marvelous gifts and grow in His grace. And may we always be wanting to say, “THANKS BE TO GOD!”

*God’s Blessings,  
Ken Bersche*

**Thanksgiving Eve Service  
Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
At 7:00 pm**



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

**Pastor**  
Kenneth Bersche  
[Pastorken@tlcesealy.org](mailto:Pastorken@tlcesealy.org)  
[kjbbersche@gmail.com](mailto: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

|                       |                         |                         |                           |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 11/03 Ruth Witte      | 11/08 ADDYSON DEMBOWSKI | 11/12 Dale Toellner     | 11/23 Johnnie Sodolak     |
| 11/04 Gavin Thompson  | 11/08 Barbara Koy       | 11/15 Chris Bryant      | 11/23 Hannah Mueller      |
| 11/05 Michael Ashorn  | 11/09 Larry Koy         | 11/16 EMMA FULLEN       | 11/24 Susie Busse         |
| 11/05 Andrew Schmidt  | 11/09 Cody Barrett      | 11/19 Samantha Bersche  | 11/24 KINSLEE CARR        |
| 11/05 Cody Shupak     | 11/11 JAKOBE DRURY      | 11/20 Dorothy Coody     | 11/26 Zachary Orsak       |
| 11/05 Joe Smith       | 11/11 Pam Epperly       | 11/20 Mark Niemann      | 11/27 Kristen Cash        |
| 11/06 Fay Alexander   | 11/11 Margaret Jatzlau  | 11/21 Michael Hulstrand | 11/27 Krystal Cash        |
| 11/07 BRYNN KONESHECK | 11/11 Clayton Sneed     | 11/21 Rhonda Pavelka    | 11/28 Gaylan Christiansen |

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

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

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 11/01/2008 Casey & Stacey Picard    | 11/15/1997 Clifton & Krisha Langton     |
| 11/04/1978 Lee & Kim Hobrathsch     | 11/16/1963 David & Carol Jean Hauschild |
| 11/09/2019 Chad & Bunmi Hintz       | 11/19/2005 Michael & Trine Hulstrand    |
| 11/10/1990 Robert & Melody Anderson | 11/23/1968 R. D. & Vera Schmidt         |
| 11/12/2010 Dale & Susie Toellner    | 11/27/1965 Pat & Mary Buechmann         |



### 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.

### THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

October 9, 2023, Amount of Deposit \$101.00.

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



**OFFICE HOURS FOR THANKSGIVING IS:**  
**Wednesday, November 22, 2023 – 8:00 am – NOON**  
**Friday, November 24, 2023, Closed for Thanksgiving**

Happy Thanksgiving





**Thank you** for the wonderful donations of diapers, blankets, and bottles. We appreciate your continued support of the center as we serve pregnant young ladies and mothers in our community.

*Thank you, Lisa Curtis,  
Sealy Pregnancy Clinic  
Volunteers and Staff*



**THE BLESSING BOX PROJECT**

Next Blessing Box Project is Wednesday, November 8<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!

**TLW in M (LWML)** had an interesting meeting on October 10, 2023 to have Matt and Marti Rathje. OGT Branch Managers, speakers for Orphan Grain Train from Pasadena! When Matt began sharing the beginning and then, how far God had blest the entire project from the Dakota's, Nebraska, and Pasadena, TX, we could truly say: Praise and thank our heavenly Father for the love, guidance, and care supplied to all !!! Their Grant has been accepted by the National LWML and our Texas District Lutheran Women's groups, and we pray that the Mite Box Grants will continue next June when our Texas District has our Convention at Corpus Christi.

Pastor Ken had the meaningful Hymn and Topic on Sin and Grace, and we thank him joyfully! We had a short meeting with discussion on: Changing our beginning meeting time of 6 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. starting in November; Mite Box collections; we co-host next spring's zone rally with Christ, Pattison; and thanking Matt and Marti Rathje for their report of the latest, the building of the Orphan Grain Train Center. Thanks to our congregation for your kind help with Diaper Bank.

Pastor Ken closed our meeting with The Lord's Prayer. All Trinity ladies are invited to attend, for a visit or to join.

***Aletha Jeske, President***



**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***



**November Circle of Friends**

Come join us for Circle of Friends Luncheon and Fellowship on Wednesday, November 1, 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!



***The Officer's Installation will take place on Sunday, December 17th.***

**ADULT VOLLEYBALL** Come and join us every third Monday of the month for adult volleyball here at Trinity at 6:30!



**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets every Wednesday from 10-11 am. Please meet me in the glass room by the church office.



I would like to thank the parents along with their child/children and families for attending the Annual Preschool Open House. I really enjoyed mingling with everyone. Parents, I am glad you took time out to have the opportunity to speak with teachers about your child's progress, needs, and abilities. I love it when the preschoolers get to show their parents around their school and classrooms, informing them of activities, projects, and assignments they have completed.

Everyone enjoyed punch and cookies after visiting the classrooms. I thank God each day for Trinity Lutheran Preschool and for having families that are loving, caring and supportive.

I feel incredibly lucky to have great preschool teachers. They each have a gift for teaching young children. These teachers are wonderful, hardworking, and dedicated. If anyone deserves praise, it is our preschool staff. They are the best thing that has happened to me. I can't help but feel super grateful and blessed this school year to have you as preschool teachers, so thank you!



**Themes!** The themes for the month of November are:

Transportation...Children love to learn about how to get from here to there.

Thanksgiving...We give thanks wholeheartedly for what the Lord does.

Five Senses: God gave us eyes to see, ears to hear, a nose to smell, hands to touch, a tongue to taste.

Feast and Friendship: As we grow up, we learn how to make friends, how to keep friends, and how to be a good friend.

The children who are ready will learn green, the shape OVAL, and the letter sounds T, C, O, R and N. The Bible verse for the month is: "Thanks be to God" (1Corinthians 15:57).

The children work on the Ten Commandments during Chapel and this month they will learn the Third Commandment "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it Holy". They will learn the meaning of the commandment that we should fear

and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it. The Bible stories for the month are:

**Week of Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>**

November 6<sup>th</sup> - No School

Pastor Bersche's Children's Message

"Hannah's Prayer" pg. 156

"A Voice in the Night" pg. 160

"Israel's First King" pg. 164

**Week of Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>**

"A Good Heart" pg. 168

"David and Goliath" pg. 173

Pastor Bersche's Children's Message

"Best Friends" pg. 181

"King David" pg. 186

"The Lord is my Shepherd" pg. 190

**Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>**

Thanksgiving Holidays

**Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.**

The Wise King pg. 194

"God Watches Over Elijah" pg.201

Pastor Bersche's Children's Message

"Elijah Helps a Widow" pg. 206



**Wear Green Day!** Since we are learning

green for the month, we would like the children to wear something GREEN to preschool on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Children can wear green clothes, socks, shoes, hair bows, neckties or whatever you can think of to reinforce green.



**Friendsgiving Day!** We are learning about

Feast and Friendship and would like the preschoolers to have a Friendsgiving Day among themselves. This will be a small Thanksgiving Celebration of giving thanks to each other.

Look for a note that will be sent home to help purchase some of the items needed for Friendsgiving Day. We would like to have all the asked for items be here on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. On Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> the preschoolers will mix the items brought in for their Friendsgiving Day Celebration and enjoy their friendship meal.



**Sack Lunch Day!** The children will have Sack Lunch Day on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> outside on the preschool playground. Look for a decorated lunch sack from your child to use in

bringing their lunch! This will be a Fun Friday for the preschoolers before Thanksgiving Holidays!



**Family of the Week!** Family of the week is a program that aids children in being able to share their family with everyone at preschool and church. Each week a family will be chosen to be Family of the Week.

Your child is asked to bring about five to ten pictures of their family to be placed on the preschool bulletin board in the 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 November are:

**Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>**

Carter Haidusek

**Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>**

Madelyn Janczak

**Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>**

Thanksgiving Holiday Week

**Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>**

Holten Johnson

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



**Fantasy of Lights!** This year's Fantasy of Lights parade will be December

2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm. The theme for the Sealy Fantasy of Lights is: "Christmas Circus".

Spencer and Areille Pitcock will help again this year with the use of their truck and trailer. The teachers will send out a 101 reminder of what supplies will be needed to complete the float.

Decorating the float will be the Monday right after the Thanksgiving holidays. This will be during preschool hours while your child is in preschool. Please, if you can help, let me know.

With a signed permission form, children can ride the float with one parent. If you want your child to ride but you are not able to ride, please have a responsible parent riding on the float to take your child with them when the parade ends. If you are planning to ride there will be no siblings and no extra family members. The trailer is not big enough to accommodate extra people.



**Reminder!** No Preschool Monday November 6<sup>th</sup> and the week of Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> - November 24<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving Holidays.

*"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" Psalm 133:1*

*In Christ, Ms. Maggie*



**TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
October 9, 2023**

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

**Council members present:**

- Terry Hankins – President
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- Pastor Bersche
- Patricia Rother – Christian Growth Chairman
- Noah Hankins – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- George Wied – Trustee Chairman
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- John Vrablec - Guest

**Absent:**

- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- Casey Picard – Vice President
- Karina Carr - Preschool

The Minutes from the meeting held on September 11, 2023, were presented for review and approval. Noah Hankins made a motion to accept the minutes. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

**Old Business:**

- Election of Officers will take place at the Congregational Meeting on October 29, 2023.

**Chairmen Reports:**

**Ruth Szymanski** – Treasurer

- September Report - As of September 30, 2023, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$1,828.50. The Building Fund balance was \$31,068.68 and the Designated Fund balance was \$85,636.50. The Total of All Funds was \$118,533.68. The total contributions for September were \$18,701.05 and total expenses for September were \$23,926.07. The total contributions for the year 2023 were \$192,910.25 while the total expenses for the year were \$201,818.10.

**Janice Wied** – Stewardship Chairman

- Media/sound system donations received this month totaled \$200.00.
- There was a \$500.00 donation for Missions.
- 2 Fellowship Hall/Gym rentals which totaled \$300.00.

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

- Still in the process of looking for a full-time pianist/organist.
- Door latches for deadbolts entering the Sanctuary - Johnnie Busse is looking for a match to fit the deadbolts so we do not have to replace the entire lock and have them re-keyed.
- The preschool is looking into daycare options for those attending Trinity's preschool.
- Elders for re-election to the board are Ronnie Schmidt, Doyle Kornegay, Stephen Stuessel and Mark Romano.

**Casey Picard** – Vice President

- No report.

**Pastor Bersche**

- Shut-in visits continue.
- Sunday morning Bible Class - Matthew 12
- Wednesday morning Bible Class - "The Chosen"
- Confirmation Class - Ten Commandments.

**Patricia Rother** - Christian Growth Chairman

- October 29 - Youth Service

- Sunday School attendance has increased.

**Noah Hankins** – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- Great turn-out for the Mission Sunday Potluck which was held on October 8th.

**George Wied** – Trustee Chairman

- The lock on the outside door to the kitchen is being worked on.

**David Novosad** – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report.

**Preschool** - (report given by Terry Hankins)

- Preschool checking account balance as of 10/9/2023 is \$113,955.00.

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

**New Business**

- Sunday, October 29 - LWML - Church Worker Appreciation Potluck after Congregational Meeting. Fried Chicken will be provided by the church. Members are asked to bring sides and desserts.

There being no further business, George Wied made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Patricia Rother seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned and Pastor Bersche closed with prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. and George Wied will have the devotion.

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