



Building His Body By  
Reflecting the Son

# TRINITY TIDBITS

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



## In the Headlines

They catch your eye and make you wonder, "What?" "Why?" "When?" "Where?" and "How?". Some are exactly what the article is all about and others for some reason have nothing to do with what is written. Its sometimes as if the author just wants to catch your eye and your attention. Yes, I'm talking about headlines in a newspaper or magazine.

"Jesus: Our Headline in Life" will be our theme for our midweek Lent worship services this year. Lent begins quite unusually early this year on Ash Wednesday which is also Valentine's Day (February 14). As we journey through these forty days of Lent our focus is on Jesus! He is the One whom our life is all about. He is our headline because all our news in life is based on Him.

Hebrews 12:1-2 is the basis of our theme:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

We will be following the Gospel According to Saint John as we focus our attention on Jesus. During this Lent, we will discover that Jesus is not the only one who suffers, dies, and rises again. Our morning midweek worship prepares us to consider our identity and connection with the Passion of Jesus as His baptized people.

Here are the headlines for the upcoming Lenten season:

|                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ash Wednesday, February 14: | The Powerless I AM         |
| Wednesday, February 21:     | Two Interogations          |
| Wednesday, February 28:     | What Kind of King is This? |
| Wednesday, March 6:         | Whom Do We Follow?         |
| Wednesday, March 13:        | Wisdom Has a Friend        |
| Wednesday, March 20:        | Jesus Finishes the Battle  |

God's Love in Jesus be with you all.

Pastor Ken



2024

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

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

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <div style="text-align: center;"> </div>  |   |  |
| <p>11:00 am<br/>Worship/Communion<br/>Light Meal after Worship</p>  | <p>6:00 pm Potluck/Soup Meal<br/>7:00 pm<br/>Worship/Communion</p>  |  |
| <p><b>ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE</b><br/>11:00 am Worship<br/>Holy Communion<br/>12:00 pm Light Meal<br/>after Worship</p> | <p><b>ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE</b><br/>6:00 pm Potluck/Soup Meal<br/><b><i>(Contact the church office<br/>about what you are bringing).</i></b><br/>7:00 pm Worship<br/>Holy Communion</p> | <p><b>ALL LENT SERVICES</b><br/>11:00 am Worship<br/>12:00 pm<br/>Light Meal</p> |

## It's Your 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)

2/01 Brooklyn Konesheck  
2/01 Amber Shupak  
2/03 James Gilliam  
2/06 ISOLDE NIEMANN  
2/06 Paige Nixon  
2/07 Bob Witte  
2/08 Audie Jackson  
2/08 Sabrina Schiller

2/08 Troy Tesch  
2/09 Courtney Dziadek  
2/11 Gage Grigar  
2/11 Darrell Palm  
2/12 Noah Hankins  
2/14 Dorothy Gerhart  
2/15 Shannon Einkauf  
2/21 Haley Orsak

2/21 AVERIE RAMON  
2/22 Jerry Grunke  
2/23 Rich Drury  
2/25 Charles Able  
2/27 Colby Nedd  
2/28 Joyce Amthor  
2/28 Charlie Arriaga

## Happy Anniversary

"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you."  
(1 Thessalonians 3:12)

2/14/1989 Bill and Ann Reay

2/24/2007 Cy and Ashley Vojtek



### 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 January 8, 2024**

**Amount of Deposit \$ \$830.00**

**Please take time and call**

**1-800-847-4836 and designate your funds to Trinity Lutheran General Fund.**



Sympathy to the family of Margaret Jatzlau who went to be with her Lord on January 18, 2024. Please be with David and Brenda Cash, their children, and the rest of the family in your prayers.



Pastor Bersche will be out of town, Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.





Come join us for Circle of Friends with lunch and fellowship on Wednesday, February 7<sup>TH</sup> at 12:15 pm. Please call Mary Buechmann 979-885-2730 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!



Please contact church office or Pastor Bersche with any updates on the prayer list. To keep our prayer list up to date and more efficient for worship, please notify the church office for all the people on the list. If we don't hear from you about them, we will temporarily remove them from the prayer list.

Thank you, Pastor Ken



#### **FLOWER CHART 2024 -**

Please sign up in the narthex on the new Flower Chart for 2024 if you would like to place

altar flower arrangements giving God the Glory in memory or honor of birthdays, anniversaries, or special occasions.



#### **SEALY CHRISTIAN PANTRY PANCAKE SUPPER** is

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Center. This will benefit the Sealy Christian Pantry Building Fund. A free-will offering will be received-no charge.



#### **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.

## **Trinity Lutheran Women in Mission**

Ruth Szymanski was 'elected' our Secretary and Trine is thinking---Visitors were Carol Schuknecht and Joanne Dixon ----Carol joined for now. So, a few notes will come from Ruth.

Cindy did an excellent job of news for our co-hosting the Mid-Coast Zone Spring Rall coming on Saturday, March 16, 10:30 am at Christ Lutheran Church in Pattison. This coming month of June Texas LWML Convention will be in Corpus Christi---more of that will be coming soon.

We thank everyone who lovingly donated diapers, baby quilts, knitted caps and sweaters for Austin County Pregnancy Resource Center. We have a load to deliver this week. We praise and thank God for precious babies! We pray that our country will hear and learn that God, our heavenly Father is the Creator of babies!

The MITE collection was \$59.67. What a blessing and we will continue ---- still need a "bunch" for our Texas projects! God will provide!



#### **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, February 14<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!



## Thank You!!

On behalf of the Blessing Box Project, I would like to send a big "Thank You" to Trinity Lutheran Church and its' members for the support of this project. Over the past 1 ½ years, the Blessing Box group from Sealy has met monthly to sew and stuff mastectomy pillows at the church gym. In addition to that, the Church Council has made a donation to the Blessing Box Project to help with supplies. I also want to give another special "Thank You" to all the women who show up each month to help with this. I have made many new friends through this group and I invite all of you to come join us on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. We have a good time, while spreading kindness around the world to women, and men, who need a little happiness at a very hard time of their lives. Thank you again to Trinity Lutheran Church!

Ruth Szymanski for the Blessing Box Pink Tribe



## THE BLESSING BOX PROJECT VISITOR

On Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> while the Blessing Box Ladies were sewing, stuffing, ironing, and cutting, Dawn Compton from Bellville came for a visit.

Dawn was diagnosed with breast cancer in March of 2018. During her journey, she has had surgeries, chemo, and radiation treatments.

God touched her heart when she was using the mastectomy pillow and showed it to a friend. Dawn came up with the pattern and began making them for a few ladies and now making them across the nation.

Dawn, a breast cancer survivor, has ladies that have come together to help her sew these pillows. The group has grown, and she says Jesus helped her and now she wants to help others. Dawn and her tribe of ladies are sewing away and sending blessing box mastectomy pillow packages to women all

over the world. Dawn said, "The Blessing Box Project helps women who need not just mastectomy pillows and drain shirts, but support and encouragement".

She said this would not happen if she did not have the help of Jesus. God placed everyone of the ladies from all different areas in her life to come together to make these mastectomy pillows.

She would not be able to do all this without monetary donations for postage, materials, polyfil, and of course all the ladies.

Since February of 2019, 15,883 blessing boxes have been requested and 14,704 blessing boxes have been shipped costing in postage of \$198,504. Dawn Compton decided that all this is God's doing and He is working through her to help others.

Dawn was presented the 2023 Bellville Lions Citizen of the Year Award. When she walked through the door and entered the gym, she wanted each lady to sign the back of her award. Without these ladies and Jesus, and her having cancer, there would not have been a Blessing Box Project.

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

**YEARLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** are

in your church mailbox located at the double glass doors on your right as you enter. Please check your church mailbox or if attending worship, check before you leave church.



## 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!





## Greetings from Ladies Aid!

Mark your calendars - our next meeting is Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 am in the church gym. We have a short meeting

and then off to lunch for fun and fellowship. Some of our activities from 2023:

Hosted receptions for beloved church family members that passed on.

Sent birthday, anniversary, and sympathy cards to members.

Visited Colonial Belle Nursing Home providing dessert and musical entertainment. Had a bake Sale to raise money.

Made donations to the Sealy Pregnancy Center, the Blessing Box, VBS, Trinity Preschool, and other worthy causes.

Christmas gift bags to our shut-ins.

We helped fund the feeding of 20 families over the holidays that depend on school meals.

We also helped a single mother of two have a better Christmas.

## Trinity Lutheran Preschool

Scholarship  
Program

**Fundraising** is the lifeline of every nonprofit organization. Fundraising

helps the preschool provide financial support and helps supplement budgets. It helps fund special projects or programs that the school's regular budget may not cover. By working together, we can raise funds that can help ensure the preschool has the resources it needs to thrive.

For the month of February, we are raising money for scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year. You can donate your monetary gifts to show how much you love the preschool. Whether you donate \$5, \$10 or whatever you can to help us reach \$3000 for two children that can attend as half scholarships. The parents pay the other half. The cost of one child to attend with half a scholarship is \$1,575.00. We would like to raise enough money each year for at least two half scholarships.

We are grateful for your support and thank you for being part of our family at Trinity Lutheran Preschool and our Community! In addition to tuition, school fundraisers keep our preschool going strong.

This fundraiser is for the whole month of February to give you a chance to donate more than once. An envelope will be provided to express the love you have for Trinity Lutheran Preschool.

You can make the check out to Trinity Lutheran Preschool or for church members, you may make your check out to Trinity Lutheran Church and designate to (Preschool) to have your donation recorded in offerings for year-end statement. I would like to say thank you in advance.



**Themes!** Themes for the month of February are Hygiene, Dental and Health.

We all know how important it is to wash our hands, and now it is even more important for children and everyone to learn the proper way of hand washing since Covid. Children will know to wash their hands, back and front and in between their fingers for twenty seconds.

They will learn the proper nutrition and how exercise can keep you healthy. Teachers will talk to the children about health items such as soap, combs, brushes, toothpaste, toothbrushes and many more items that will keep you healthy.



The Bible Stories for the month of February are:

**Feb. 5th – Feb. 9th**

“A Hole in the Roof” Pg. 328

Chapel with Pastor Bersche

**Feb. 12th – Feb 16th**

“A Fishermen’s Net” Pg. 351

“Jesus Feeds Thousands” Pg. 357

Chapel with Pastor Bersche

Jesus Walks on Water” Pg. 364

Jesus Heals Blind Beggar” Pg. 371

“Money in a Fish” Pg. 375

**Feb. 19th – Feb. 23rd**

“The Good Samaritan” Pg. 379

Chapel with Pastor Bersche

“Mary and Martha” Pg. 385

**Feb. 26th – March 1st**

“The Lost Sheep” Pg. 391

Chapel with Pastor Bersche

“The Lost Son” Pg. 397

“Ten Lepers” Pg. 405

The Bible Verse for the month is:


“Love One Another” (John 13:34).


The children will learn The Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal.


*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God, so we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any way dishonest way, but help him improve and protect his possessions and income.

Along with the Seventh Commandment the children will also learn The Eighth Commandment: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.


We will learn pink and the shape HEART and the letters P, H, L, U, and G.

 **Valentine's Party!** The preschool will have their Valentine's Party on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am – 10:30 am. We will have an English muffin pizza party. Please sign up on the list for food and games.

 **Singing in Church!** We all know the wonderful feeling of watching our child/children perform for us. Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> to make plans for all the preschoolers to join us for the 10:00 am worship service. The children will be in front of the church and sing some of the wonderful songs that they learned in chapel.

 **Stranger Danger!** The children are ready for Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt to come to preschool. He will be here on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am to talk to the children about Stranger Danger.

Mr. Gary will talk to the children about not going with someone you do not know, not taking anything from a stranger, especially candy, an animal, money, or a ride in a vehicle. Only talk to another person if your mom or dad or the person you are with says it is alright. And know how and when to call 911.

 **Family of the Week!** Family of the week is a program we have that aids children in being able to share their family with everyone. Families of the Week for the month of February are:


|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> – Feb 9<sup>th</sup></b><br>Leanna Lopez | <b>Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup></b><br>James Pitcock     |
| <b>Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> – Feb 16<sup>th</sup></b><br>Jesse Mock | <b>Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> – Mar. 1<sup>st</sup></b><br>Jaxson Reibenstein |



**Silly Hair Day!** On Friday, February 16<sup>h</sup> the children will have a silly hair day. This is so much fun to see the different ways of children with their hair fixed silly.



**100 Days of Preschool!** On Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, in celebrating 100 days of preschool, the children can come to school dressed as an old person being a hundred years old. This is a fun way to celebrate the halfway point of the school year.

 **Bring PINK Items!** On Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>, please have your child bring PINK items to preschool to reinforce the color for the month!



**Go Western Day!** Go Western Day will be Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. The children can come to preschool dressed in western clothes to promote the Houston Rodeo!

The children can wear western jeans, western shirts, boots, hats, bandanas, and belts. Please NO GUNS! Spurs may be worn but will be taken away if they hurt another child. Let's see all the cowboys and cowgirls!



**Bring a Postage Stamp!** Each child will need to bring a postage stamp to their child's teacher for the special Valentine card to be mailed by the children to their parents. The preschool office will not sell stamps, so please be sure your child brings one stamp to school. You may want to check with your child's teacher to make sure one stamp will be enough, depending on the size and weight of the valentine project.

Children will learn a little about the postal system in their classrooms. The teachers will have a center for the children to make cards, write letters and pretend to be mail carriers, etc.

The children will place the valentine cards in the church mailbox outside the door for the postal carrier to take with them.



**FALL REGISTRATION WILL OPEN AT THE SAME TIME FOR THE COMMUNITY AS FOR FAMILIES IN THE PROGRAM!**

Fall registration will begin Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and end on Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> for the families that are enrolled in the program now! This is giving you the first chance to enroll your child for the 2024-2025 school year at a reduced nonrefundable registration fee price of \$100.00 instead of \$150.00.

Registration will be opened to the community for the 2024-2025 school year at the same time as for the families already enrolled in the program with a non-refundable registration fee price of \$125.00 instead of \$150.00.

Registration packets will be ready for you to pick up on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> in the preschool office. This will be a first come first basis for enrollment. Please spread the word about fall registration for the 2024-2025 school year.



Reminder that preschool is closed Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> and Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> the same as public school.

*"Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!"*

*1 Corinthians 15:57*

*In Christ, Ms. Maggie*



**TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
COUNCIL  
MEETING  
MINUTES  
January 8, 2024**

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by John Vrabec. Barry Wolf presented the devotion.

**Council members present:**

- John Vrabec – President
- Terry Hankins – Vice President
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- Pastor Bersche
- Nikki Vrabec – Board of Education Chairman
- Joann Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- George Wied – Trustee Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Patricia Rother - Guest

**Absent:**

- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Preschool

The Minutes from the meeting held on December 11, 2023, were presented for review and approval. Barry Wolf made a motion to accept the minutes. Terry Hankins seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

**Old Business:**

- No old business.

**Chairmen Reports:**

**Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer**

- December Report - As of December 31, 2023, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$21,462.63. The Building Fund balance was \$33,589.13 and the Designated Fund balance was \$90,582.50. The Total of All Funds was \$145,634.26. The total contributions for December were \$34,801.45 and total expenses for December were \$22,350.20. The total contributions for the year 2023 were \$281,169.70 while the total expenses for the year were \$272,839.52.
- There was discussion regarding donations for missions. Terry Hankins made a motion with a 2nd from Barry Wolf for the following donation distributions:
  - \$1,000.00 to Blessing Box Project
  - \$1,000.00 to Sealy Christian Food Pantry
  - \$1,000.00 to Lutheran World Relief
  - \$1,000.00 to Camp Lone Star

All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

**Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman**

- Special donations for the month included:
  - \$1,536.00 for Media
  - \$3,286.00 for Missions
  - \$210.00 for Good Samaritan

**Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman**

- Discussion with the Elders involved Concordia Organist. Concordia Organist is digital based organ music



that can be added to Lutheran Service Builder. Concordia Publishing has been contacted for more information as to how it works. There are more questions so communication with Concordia Publishing will continue.

- Christmas Eve services were well attended with 98 at 10:00 a.m., 61 at 4:00 p.m. and 45 at 6:00 p.m.
- The Elder Duty Schedule for the first half of 2024 was passed around for sign-up.

**Terry Hankins – Vice President**

- Nothing to report.

**Pastor Bersche**

- Bible Classes:
  - Sunday Mornings are finishing the study of Matthew 13 and will be starting Matthew 14.
  - Wednesday Mornings continue their study of “The Chosen”.
  - Confirmation classes are focused on “Office of the Keys”.

**Nikki Vrabec - Board of Education Chairman**

- The children’s Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 24 following the 10:00 a.m. worship service.
- Vacation Bible School has been set for Tuesday, May 28 - Thursday, May 30 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Joann Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman**

- Christmas Caroling was a success with 17 in attendance. Hot chocolate and cookies were provided.
- The “Little Food Pantry” is starting up again and donations are being accepted.

**George Wied – Trustee Chairman**

- Thank you to whoever brought in gravel and repaired holes in the parking lot behind the church. Your work is very much appreciated.

**David Novosad – Usher Chairman**

- Usher’s schedule for 2024 is complete and has been distributed.

**Preschool -**

- No report.

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

**New Business**

- No new business.

There being no further business, George Wied made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Barry Wolf seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned. Pastor led the Council in the Lord’s Prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. and Janice Wied will have the devotion.

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

