



Building His Body By
Reflecting the Son

April

TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Death and Resurrection!

Regardless of the circumstances, when the death of a loved one happens it is always difficult! Whether it is a miscarriage where the child never breathed outside the womb, or the one who has suffered and struggled with an illness for years, or the one who dies in their 90's. Death is hard to handle! It goes against God's nature. He created life not death. Unfortunately, because of our sin, we are ones responsible for the end of physical life.

Yet how easy it is for us to forget that we creatures are more than physical beings. Physicality is a part of us but it is not our whole being. We are also spiritual creatures. Although the body degenerates and decays and eventually dies, our spirits continue to live. That's why its important for us to be in God's Word for we want our spirits to grow and flourish.

Death to the physical body is one thing. It happens to all human beings! But death to our spirit is another thing. It is much more important. It is sad to say but there are many people walking, talking, eating, drinking, and breathing who are alive physically but are dead spiritually. And only God can revive the spirit with life.

That's where Jesus' death and resurrection touches our lives. We confess in the Apostles' Creed that we believe in the resurrection of the physical body in the Third Article. (I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.) Remember we are more than physical and so Jesus' death and resurrection also gives life to our spirits.

The Apostle Paul reminds us that we are baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection so that we in His newness of life will rise to live for Him. That is life not only to the physical but also to the spiritual. Eternal life is not only something we look forward to in heaven with Jesus, its also a present possession. We have eternal life right here and now!

The Easter greeting of "He is risen" with the response, "He is risen, indeed!" sometimes rolls off our tongues like, "Good Morning, how are you doing?" with the response, "Just fine." We say, "He is risen!" without even thinking about the impact that statement has on our physical and spiritual life!

Therefore, we greet each other with great joy. We greet each other understanding the importance of the statement both on our physical and spiritual bodies. We greet each other as brothers and sisters in Christ: HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN, INDEED!!

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

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

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)

4/02 AVERY FULLEN
4/02 John Fullen
4/02 Tracy Schiller
4/02 Rachel Wolf
4/03 Jennifer Smith
4/13 CAYDEN KOPECKY
4/14 Amanda Matus
4/15 Rose Einkauf
4/15 Brent Foltz
4/17 Sarah Emshoff

4/17 Lorena Mueller
4/18 Marlene Leiber
4/18 Carrie Steinbach
4/19 Eric Bryant
4/19 Donald Munoz
4/20 Denise Kopecky
4/22 Antoinette Romano
4/22 HANISH THOMPSON
4/23 Avery Grigar

4/23 Isabeau Niemann
4/23 COURTLYNN SHUPAK
4/25 Kayla Romano
4/26 Geraldine Barrett
4/26 Carol Jean Hauschild
4/26 Jerry Leiber
4/28 ELLEN HILSON
4/29 Chad Hintz
4/30 Kimberly Hobratschk

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)

04/02/1967 Larry & Barbara Koy
04/14/1962 Bob and Ruth Witte
04/18/2009 Jason and Karina Carr

04/19/1988 Donald and Felicia Munoz
04/25/1998 Joe and Jennifer Smith



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.



Sympathy to the family of Cindy Sodolak who went to be with her Lord on Saturday, March 9, 2024. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.



Sympathy for the family of Robert Anderson who went to be with his Lord on Sunday, March 24, 2024. Please keep his wife, Melody and daughter, Ellie, and the rest of the family in your prayers.



Sympathy for the family of Patsy Novosad who went to be with her Lord on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. Please keep David and the rest of the family in your prayers.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

THE SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be Sunday April 28th after the 10:00 am worship service. This meeting will be to vote on two new preschool board members.

Fellowship Sundays

Our Sunday Morning Fellowship is growing! Come join us for donuts and kolaches at 8:30am and Sunday School/Bible Study for all ages at 9am.

Little Church Pantry

The Little Church Pantry continues to give out bags of groceries to people in need around Sealy. The sign on the food cabinet out front says food is given out Wednesdays 10am to noon. Food donations from church members can be made on the cart in the Narthex – thank you.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

March 7, 2024

Amount of Deposit \$187.00. 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. Please meet me in the glass room by the church office.

Ladies Aid Field Trip

Ladies Aid is taking a field trip April 4 to Fayetteville to see Trinity Lutheran Church's former buildings which were bought by St. Paul Lutheran Church and moved in 1962. St. Paul Lutheran Church is celebrating its 130th anniversary this year and is excited to have us visit. They would love to have copies of photographs of baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and other events that took place in the buildings when they belonged to Trinity Lutheran Church. Please get copies of your photos to Trine Hultstrand! AND please join the ladies of Ladies Aid for the field trip. Details on carpooling and lunch to be posted later!

Circle of Friends

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS with

lunch and fellowship is on Wednesday, April 3rd 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.

Ladies Aid We had a productive January meeting and a fun lunch at the Frydek Roadhouse. Antoinette Romano found a 100-year anniversary Ladies Aid Society bulletin from 1995. We were officially created on Good Friday, April 12, 1895! The bulletin was read by our own historian Trine Hultstrand.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 4 at 10:30. Afterwards, we plan to travel to Fayetteville to visit our old church building (moved there circa 1963) and lunch on the town square.

Trinity Lutheran Women in Mission

TLWM meets every second Tuesday of the month at the new time of 2:00 pm. Next meeting is Tuesday April 9th at 2:00 pm.



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, March 13th 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!



FELLOWSHIP SUNDAYS!

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!



CONGREGATIONAL POTLUCK MEAL

Come and join us in honoring our High School and College graduates taking place on Sunday April 28, 2024.

Please let the church office know if you are graduating college. Please join us for the Potluck Meal after the worship service. Please bring a dish: meat, vegetable, casserole, or dessert. Please contact Joanne Dixon for more information.



"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." ~ John 3:16-17



Bike Safety with Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt!

Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will talk to the children about Bike Safety on Wednesday, April 24th at 10:15 am. He stresses to the children about the importance of wearing a helmet, watching out for people, and being aware of parked cars and knowing driveways can be dangerous while riding a bike. Teaching safety is important here at Trinity.



Family of the Week! We enjoy family of the week sharing families with everyone at preschool and church. Families of the Week for the month of April are:

April 1st-5th Ryker Spivey

April 8th-12th Ella Toomes

April 15th- 19th Amelia Ventura

April 22nd - 26th Isabella Davis

The families will hand the pictures to their teacher the Friday before their child is the family of the week.



Potty Training! I want to remind the two-year-old parents that all who are going into the three-year-old classes this fall must be potty trained. Please remember that if your child is not potty trained, they may not be in the three-year-old class. That means no pull ups! Each child must be in underwear or panties!

Please work with your child at home supervising them to take down their own

bottoms and get themselves onto the toilet, wipe, flush and pull up their own bottoms. By working together, let's make this our goal for them to potty without assistance.

Potty training is possible if the teacher and parents work together. I appreciate all the parents supporting the teacher for potty training the children.

If your child has been sent home with a change of clothes from Trinity, please return it by the end of this school year.



Picture Day! Please mark your calendar for spring pictures for everyone and graduation pictures for the pre-kindergarten class on Thursday, April 4th. Please be here as close to 8 am. Pictures will begin promptly at 8:15 am.



Crazy Sock Day! On Wednesday, April 10th the children will have fun wearing funny socks for Silly Sock Day! The children must come to preschool with shoes on. Children that come in with sandals without any socks, please bring a pair of socks for them. Shoes are a must when going outside to play.



Wear Black Day! On Friday, April 12th we would like the preschoolers to wear the color BLACK to reinforce the color for the month.



Park and Picnic! Springtime is here with great spring weather. With the beautiful sunshine the four-year-old class is looking forward to enjoying a park and picnic at Lions Park on Wednesday, April 17th. We need parents to bring their child a sack lunch with a drink. The children will decorate a special bag for their lunches as a great reminder to the parents not to forget.

A permission form must be signed to attend the park and picnic. We also need at least (4) or more parent volunteers to help chaperone, have close eye supervision and help transport the children across the street to the park and back to the preschool. If rain occurs, we will have a sack lunch day, play games, and have their lunch in the gym.

Parents that are helping with the park and picnic please be here by 9:30 a.m. Remember that each child is a precious gift from God. Please do not gather and visit each other, so your eyes are in view of the children at all times.



Picnic on the Playground! The two and three- year-old classes will have their special picnic in the playground while the four-year-old class have theirs at Lions Park. Please bring your child a sack lunch with a drink. Look for the decorated special bag to pack their lunch!



Themes! The themes for the month of April are Spring, Farm, Sea Animals, Earth Day, and Bike Safety.



Bike Safety Week is Tuesday, April 23rd -Friday, April 26th. We ask each child to bring \$2 to send to St. Jude's Research Hospital to help families with their child with cancer. Marlo Thomas and many like her are actively involved in fundraising and awareness efforts for the hospital, it is important to note that she does not receive a salary or payment from St. Jude's. Instead, people like Marlo Thomas dedicate their time and efforts to support the hospital's mission of providing free medical care to children with cancer.



Earth Day will be recognized on Friday, April 19th. The preschoolers will make a special snack of cut up blueberries, cut up grapes with cream cheese on rice cake to represent the earth.

This month the preschoolers will learn the color black, the shape diamond and the letters B, V, E, W, and K for the ones that are ready to continue.

The Bible stories for the month of April are:

<u>April 1st – 5th</u> No School Chapel with Pastor Bersche "Jesus Returns"	<u>April 22nd - 26th</u> No School Chapel with Pastor Bersche "The Lame Man"
<u>April 8th -12th</u> "A Net for of Fish" Chapel with Pastor Bersche "Jesus Goes to Heaven"	<u>April 29th – May 3rd</u> "A Changed Man" Chapel with Pastor Bersche "Paul's Journey"
<u>April 15th- 19th</u> "The Holy Spirit Comes" Chapel with Pastor Bersche "The First Church"	"Earthquake in Prison" "Jesus is Coming"

The children continue to learn the Ten Commandments and Lord's Prayer and know that Jesus loves them.



Teacher Appreciation! An early reminder! Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6th – May 10th. Preschool teachers have a special gift and talent in teaching and loving

our children. Thanks to all who make these teachers feel important, blessed, and loved. Make this a great week for these special teachers who touch the heart of the children and all of us. Thanks for being there for all of us all year long. All of you are special parents with a caring heart. You are greatly appreciated!



Pre-K Graduation! SAVE THE DATE!
The Pre-K class will have a cap and gown ceremony on Sunday, May 19th at 10:00 am worship service with a reception after the service.

In Christ, Ms. Maggie



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES March 11, 2024

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

Council members present:

- John Vrabec – President
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- Nikki Vrabec – Board of Education Chairman
- Joanne Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Pastor Ken Bersche
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Preschool - Karina Carr

Absent:

- Terry Hankins – Vice President
- George Wied – Trustee Chairman

The Minutes from the meeting held on February 12, 2024, were presented for review and approval. Barry Wolf made a motion to accept the minutes. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- No old business.

Chairmen Reports:

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

- February Report - As of February 29, 2024, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$16,123.69. The Building Fund balance was \$35,264.69 and the Designated Fund balance was \$89,042.50. The Total of All Funds was \$140,430.88. The total contributions for February were \$22,365.05 and total expenses for February were \$22,190.48. The total contributions for the year 2024 were \$40,572.55 while the total expenses for the year were \$45,542.40.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Special donations for the month included:
 - \$150.00 for Media
 - \$200.00 for Garden Sign
 - \$300.00 for Gym Rentals
 - \$250.00 for Missions

Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman

- Update on LSB and Concordia Organist - Lutheran Service Builder and Concordia Organist are set up. The LSB and CO are on the cloud with multiple people who can have access. We are still in the trial stage, but everything seems to be working.
- Elders will be purchasing a new laptop for Pastor Bersche.

Terry Hankins – Vice President

- Nothing to report.

Pastor Bersche –

- Still visiting shut-ins.
- Bible Classes:
 - Sunday Mornings are currently studying Matthew 16.
 - Wednesday Mornings continue their study of “The Chosen”. They are currently on episode 7 “Invitations”.
 - Confirmation Seminar in February was over the Lord’s Supper.

Nikki Vrabec - Board of Education Chairman

- Vacation Bible School preparation is underway.
- We need a new projector in the gym for worship during VBS.

Joann Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- Easter Breakfast will be at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 31.

George Wied – Trustee Chairman

- Nothing to report.

David Novosad – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Preschool - Karina Carr

- Preschool’s color copier was set up on March 6.
- There have been 5 new enrollments.
- The Preschool Board needs 2 new board members.
- Preschool checking account balance is \$121,125.90. Savings account balance is \$505.99.

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

New Business

- Garden sign for vinyl advertising banners (to be located at the corner of Meyer and 4th St.) - After discussion, Barry Wolf made a motion to obtain written permission from the City of Sealy for approval and proper placement of the sign and for the sign design to go out for bid. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

There being no further business, Nikki Vrabec made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Novosad seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned and Pastor Bersche led the Lord’s Prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. and Ruth Szymanski will have the devotion.

John Vrabec - President
Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary