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Building His Body By Reflecting the Son



TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Knowing the Real Enemy

The story is set on a quiet Saturday afternoon in Wyoming

in 1876. Most of the town are having a leisurely time at the town's saloon when good Ol' Jeb comes racing in frantically. He hollers out, "Big John is coming to town! Big John is coming to town!"

Immediately, the crowd leaves everything and rushes for the door. Food and drink are abandoned everywhere. In a matter of seconds, the place is deserted. The barkeeper quickly locks up all alcohol and begins to bar the front door.

But before he can secure the door, a man comes galloping down Main Street on a huge bull buffalo and reins up out front. He dismounts, grabs the buffalo by the horns, bites down on its upper lip, kicks it in the ribs and orders the buffalo, "Stay!" The huge beast cowers submissively at the hitching post.

The man rips the saloon's doors off their hinges. He stomps in and catches the bartender heading out the back door. "Hold up!" The rough-looking stranger orders. "I need something to drink."

Momentarily paralyzed with fear, the bartender looks the stranger over. He is six to seven feet tall. He outweighs a full-grown size grizzly. He wears rattlesnake skin chaps with a greasy rawhide shirt. He sports a filthy-torn Stetson hat and steel-toed fighting boots. He smells like he hasn't had a bath or shower in weeks. On one hip is a sawed-off 12-gauge shotgun, on the other a revolver. On his scarred, stubbled face is a look of cruel, insane meanness and madness.

As the bartender trembles and stutters in fear, he responds to this stranger's request for a drink, "Rrrright away sssirr." The stranger takes the bottle the bartender gives him, smashes its neck on the edge of the bar, tilts it back and drains its contents in one gulp.

The bartender again responds as he stammers, "Wwwould you like another, sir?"

The stranger wipes his mouth with the back of his hand and says, "Not on your life! I'm getting out of here as fast as possible. Haven't ya heard, "Big John is coming to town!"

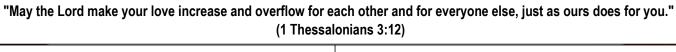
So, it is in life for us. We often don't realize the dire straits were in because we can't identify who our true enemy is. We tend to think it's our neighbors, or those who always speak against us. But our true enemy is the devil, which we can't even begin to comprehend how dangerous and deadly he is!

Thanks be to God though. Even though most of the time we don't identify him, Jesus is always on our side. He knows who and what we are up against. And He never leaves us or abandons us. There are a lot of evil forces in this world, and they don't even compare to the temptations and death which the devil brings.

Even so, Jesus died for our sins and rescues us from the devil. We are baptized into His death and resurrection, and we are set free from the devil's chains. "He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:13-14

In Christ, Pastor Ken

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good It's Your Birthday! works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10) 6/02 **Heather Bozeman** 6/10 Codi Konesheck 6/25 **Larry Alexander** 6/02 Lauren Jackson Robert Bozeman 6/13 **Austin Jacobson** 6/25 6/02 **Justin Szymanski Brett Ebers** 6/25 Luke Thielemann 6/14 6/04 Lillian Villalovoz **Brandon Ebers** 6/15 **Karina Carr** 6/26 Milton Beckendorff 6/05 6/16 **Beverly Fritsch** 6/27 **Brenda Cash Donna Emshoff** 6/06 6/20 Nicole Vrablec 6/28 **Ann Reav** 6/06 **Paul Orsak** Johanna Buechmann Stephen Stuessel 6/21 6/29 **Lowell Coody** 6/10 6/21 **Connor Smith** 6/29 **Kolby Wolf** 6/10 **Jerry Ebers** 6/23 Sheri Dziadek HAPPY ANNJUERSARY



6/1/1958	Bobby & Geraldine Barrett	6/16/2001	Brian & Amber Nedd
6/3/1972	Clarence & Rose Einkauf	6/16/1957	Billy & Doris Schaffner
6/4/1994	John & Shirley Schier	6/17/1973	Jerry & Marlene Leiber
6/14/1997	Russell & Sheri Dziadek		Terry & Noah Hankins
6/14/1969	Marvin & Carol Pless	6/25/2016	Cody & Amber Shupak
6/14/1975	Troy & Yvonne Tesch		



The Ladies Aid would like to say thank you so very much to all who baked to make our bake sale a success. You are greatly appreciated!

Antoinette Romano



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.

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

Confirmands

May God lead you in His path as you continue growing spiritually!







Carson Ca

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Trinity Lutheran Preschool Pre-K Graduates

"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)









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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

ioin Please and welcome our new

members to our family of faith with a potluck meal on Sunday June 23rd. We would like the congregational members to bring sides of meat, veggies, casseroles, fruits, or desserts. New Members do not bring anything but you and your families. Please note...everyone please come to the luncheon even if you are not bringing a side. This is a great time to visit and enjoy us with our newest members. New Members are:

Stone Barrett

Gloria Havemann Sanjay & Rexanne Singh

> **Chance & Aliska Willever** with children Bane and Bradi

David and Meaghan Weishoff with children Eloise, Graham, and Harvey

Milton and Chris Beckendorff

Gloria Havemann

Confirmands:

Carson Bryant Case Carter & Alivia Ramon





Pastor is out of the office beginning Friday, June 14th - Saturday, June 22nd.

Maggie is on vacation Monday, July 1st through Friday, July 5th.

The church office is open July 1st - 3rd 8 am noon and closed Thursday and Friday, July 4th and 5th for the 4th of July weekend.



THE BLESSING BOX **PROJECT**

Blessing Next Box Project is Wednesday,

June 12th 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!

TLWM

TLWM meets every second Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm. Next meeting is Tuesday June 11th at 2:00 pm



Collecting personal hygiene products is an ongoing project Orphan Grain Train. TLWM invites you to continue

donating items for the personal hygiene kits which Orphan Grain Train sends worldwide. Suggested items include bath towels, washcloths. bars of soap (original wrapper), plastic soap boxes. toothbrushes, Band-Aids, combs, tissues (travel package size), nail clippers. Place vour items in the train box located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the glass hallway.



WHAT IS TLWM?!

It is **Trinity** Lutheran Women in Mission. It is

Trinity Lutheran Church's LWML, Lutheran Women's Missionary League, which is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS).

LWML has as its "mission heart" thousands of volunteers who are daily dedicating their lives to making a difference in this world. It is women who are finding avenues to use their God-given talents as they meet the challenge to share the Gospel message. It seeks to develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among the women of the Synod through education, inspiration, and service. It places a major emphasis on the support of mission and ministry throughout the world by means of Mite Box offerings.

These Mite Box offerings have funded over 100 million dollars in mission grants since the organization's inception in 1942.

Please come to our next meeting on June 11th at 2 p.m. in the gym. There will be Bible study, mission planning, and fellowship!



Since the year of Covid 19, Trinity Lutheran Church's Preschool Program has had many blessings. I

know I prayed many prayers, and I know you and many others have prayed the same prayer. We are functioning because God is continually working in every believer when their hearts are committed to Him.

My heart is full of joy seeing parents, their families and congregational members at the Pre-K Graduation last month on Sunday, May 19th. Watching these students recite The Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer, and know their monthly Bible Verse is amazing.

Here at Trinity Lutheran Preschool, it's our responsibility to teach these little ones what is needed to prepare them for kindergarten and have respect to God's Word so they may know Him, live by His commands, and teach others about Him for generations to come.

Thank you to the congregation for attending the Pre-K Graduation Ceremony. Thank you to the Church Council, Elders, Preschool Church Volunteers. **Preschool** Board, Teachers, Parents and Pastor Bersche for coming together and taking time for the preschool program. Thank you to Mary Buechmann for providing the cake after the worship service for everyone. It was such a pleasure seeing congregational members attend the reception with the preschoolers and parents.

This is not my preschool program, this is God's preschool program, seeing the hand of God at work. I will be forever grateful for your support, kindness, and love. These precious little gifts from God are to be valued and cared for in His name.

In Christ, Ms. Maggie

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES May 13, 2024

The Trinity Lutheran
Church Council meeting was
called to order by John Vrablec. George
Wied presented the devotion.

Council members present:

- John Vrablec President
- Terry Hankins Vice President
- George Wied Trustee Chairman
- Ruth Szymanski Treasurer
- Janice Wied Stewardship Chairman
- Nikki Vrablec/Valerie Bryant Board of Education Chairman
- Joann Dixon Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Pastor Ken Bersche
- David Novosad Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay Secretary
- Preschool Rebecca Tipton

Absent:

• Barry Wolf - Elder Chairman

The Minutes from the meeting held on April 8, 2024, were presented for review and approval. Terry Hankins made a motion to accept the minutes. Nikki Vrablec seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- In the process of getting an estimate for the installation of a video projector with mounting system in the gym for use by the preschool and church.
- Small Rock Garden & Sign (corner of Hwy 36 & 4th Street) - Jane Lebo and Alton Ehler presented their design and ideas for the installation of a garden sign and rock bed. Progress continues and approvals have been obtained from the City of Sealy.

Chairmen Reports:

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

 April Report - As of April 30, 2024, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$25,195.03. The Building Fund balance was \$40,557.82 and the Designated Fund balance was \$99,882.20. The Total of All Funds was \$165,635.05. The total contributions for April were \$25,801.00 and total expenses for April were \$23,647.56. The total contributions for the year 2024 were \$94,573.80 while the total expenses for the year were \$90,579.68.

Janice Wied - Stewardship Chairman

- Special donations for the month included:
 - \$183.20 for Media
 - o \$200.00 for Garden Sign
 - \$150.00 for Gym Rentals
 - o \$600.00 for Preschool
 - \$13,380.00 for Memorials (This includes \$10,000.00 for the projector needed in the gym.)

Barry Wolf - Elder Chairman

- In the process of getting estimates for projector installation in the gym.
- No estimates for renovation of the Sacristy.

Terry Hankins - Vice President

• Nothing to report.

Pastor Bersche -

- Still visiting shut ins.
- Official Acts:
 - Confirmation on May 5 of Carson Bryant, Case Carter, and Alivia Ramon.
- Bible Classes:
 - o Sunday Mornings Matthew 19.
 - Wednesday Mornings "He Gets Us Campaign"

Nikki Vrablec - Board of Education Chairman

Vacation Bible School preparation continues.

Joann Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- The Graduation Potluck was a success
 16 graduates were honored.
- New Member Luncheon June 23
- Pastor Bersche's 30th Ordination Anniversary is scheduled for July 21 after church.

George Wied - Trustee Chairman

- Minor repairs continue.
- Fire inspection conducted all findings have been resolved.

 Johnnie Busse applied for a bond renewal for the large church sign on Hwy 36.

David Novosad - Usher Chairman

• Everything is running smoothly.

Preschool - Rebecca Tipton

 Presented 2025 Proposed Preschool Budget.

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

New Business

- Audit for Memorial Donations will be scheduled and conducted by Janice Wied and Ruth Szymanski.
- Ruth Szymanski made a motion to combine Lent, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday offerings into an Outdoor Ministry line item on the Treasury Report. George Wied seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.
- George Wied made a motion to set up an online scholarship application for future youth to attend Camp Lone Star. Kimberly Kornegay seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.
- George Wied made a motion to approve a \$350 scholarship for 2 Trinity Lutheran Youth to attend Camp Lone Star this summer. Ruth Szymanski seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.

There being no further business, George Wied made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry Hankins seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned and Pastor Bersche led the Lord's Prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. and George Wied will have the devotion.

John Vrablec - President Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary