



Building His Body By
Reflecting the Son

TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Words Are Not Enough to Express My Gratitude

I thank all of you, the children of God at Trinity in Sealy! I cannot express enough how much you all mean to me and my family. Therefore, whether you were present at the celebration on July 21st or not, the following is my statement to you:

I have been serving as a pastor for more than 30 years now. I must admit it, I don't usually remember the sermon I preached when I leave the building on Sunday. My mind is usually cleared to get ready for the next week. However, today (July 21, 2024) I would like to revisit the sermon theme from earlier.

When Jesus fed the 5,000 with five loaves of bread and two fish, the disciples quickly pointed out the obvious: we're in a desolate place and it is getting late. But they didn't recognize even the more obvious issue, Jesus was present.

Today, I ask you, "What are we celebrating?" The obvious answer is my 30 years of pastoral ministry. The problem with that answer is: it's incomplete. You're missing the bigger picture and the most obvious of all. Today we are celebrating those who have supported me throughout the years, starting with my wife, Melissa. She has been a large part of my ministry, and her support is endless and amazing. My family, Samantha, my oldest daughter, and Dani, my youngest have both been nothing but supportive in serving the Lord. They along with my family and friends throughout the world.

We are celebrating thirty years of ministry. I have been here nine of those years, so in doing the math, we are celebrating the congregation of Zion in Lockett, Texas who supported me for 21 years. As I have said in the past, I still do not know why I am here. My plan was to serve the beautiful people of Zion and then retire. But the Lord called me to serve you, so here I am. And within those 21 years, I was also supported by the people of Trinity in Seymour, Texas for 15 years since they, being a small group, were basically a perpetual vacancy.

Today we celebrate those two congregations whom I have served, because without them, I wouldn't be here today. Today, we also celebrate YOU, the redeemed people of Trinity in Sealy. You have supported me for all these past nine years (which doesn't seem like that long). This meal is a celebration meal but not only for me, it is mostly for you.

And last but definitely not least, the one who is the greatest that we celebrate today is our Lord Jesus Christ. It is in His grace and mercy that we are able to serve and celebrate. I have said it when I was at the Seminary and I continue to say it, "Only by the grace of God!" The same can be said for all of our lives, each and every day we serve. We can only serve and live, "only by the grace of God."

In Christ,
Pastor Ken

**August
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

979-885-2211

ELDERS

Lowell Coody

Joel Grigar

Doyle Kornegay

Mark Romano

Tracy Schiller

Ronnie Schmidt

Stephen Stuessel

Barry Wolf

**RALLY DAY
SEPTEMBER 8TH**

Rally Day

Sunday School Kickoff



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)

8/04 CARSON BRYANT
 8/05 Melissa Niemann
 8/05 John Vrablec Jr.
 8/06 Norma Pavelka
 8/09 Krisha Langton
 8/11 Tara Hobbs
 8/11 Bill Reay
 8/11 Cheryl Steinhauser

8/12 Patsy Romano
 8/13 Steven Cobb
 8/13 Lee Allen Palm
 8/15 Rynne Meyer
 8/15 Carol Pless
 8/15 James Schmidt
 8/15 Jennifer Sullivan
 8/16 Shea Orsak

8/17 BARRETT STONE
 8/17 Jason Carr
 8/17 CAMERON VOJTEK
 8/17 Karleigh Wilkerson
 8/18 Patrick Johnston
 8/18 Alton Kveton
 8/20 Mary Ann Thompson
 8/21 Pat Buechmann

8/22 Dean Jacobson
 8/24 ZABEIN ALLEN
 8/23 Jason Kruzel
 8/24 Blair Konescheck
 8/27 Rob Emshoff
 8/27 Stephanie Koeppen
 8/29 Tara Johnston
 8/29 Marvin Pless

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)

8/1/2015 John and Nicole Vrablec
 8/2/1969 Charles and Bev Ekarius
 8/7/2010 John and Nichol Fullen
 8/11/1973 Johnny & Joan Griffin

8/13/1977
 8/24/1968
 8/30/1980

Robert and Suzanne Bozeman
 Pastor Gilbert and Beth Franke
 Charles and Barbara Havemann



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, Hospice at Colonial Living, Sealy
 Joyce Meyer, Colonial Living, 1401 Eagle Lake Rd. Sealy, TX 7747



Thank you

Johanna Buechmann, for volunteering to water and take care of the Atrium located between the church office and sanctuary.



Thank you

Terry and Noah Hankins, for volunteering to keep up with the attendance cards, pencils and envelopes in the sanctuary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL kickoff

SAVE THE DATE!

Rally Sunday, September 8th

Begins with Breakfast Then a KICKOFF to Sunday School!

A **≡SLIGHT≡**
CHANGE OF
PLANS

Ladies Aid Meeting Moved From Thursday, Aug. 1st to Thursday, Aug. 8th 10:30 am.



**THE BLESSING BOX
PROJECT CREWS ARE
TAKING THE MONTH OF
AUGUST OFF AND WILL RESUME
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH!**

For more information, call Ruth Szymanski at 979-885-9504.

**TLWM TRINITY LUTHERAN WOMEN
IN MISSIONS** will meet Tuesday, August 13 at 2 p.m. Election of President and Secretary while we encourage our VP and Treasurer to continue for another two years.

Pastor will have Opening Devotions and the Bible Topic. Ladies of Trinity, you are invited to attend and also, join. New members, you are so welcome, too!

Discussions are our projects: Orphan Grain Train, Diaper Bank, and Lutherans Walk 4 Life. Hope to see all of you! Thanks for all your care---my bones are healed and was thankfully blessed with Trey J.

*God's Blessings,
Aletha Jeske, Pres.*



**ONGOING
PROJECT OF
TLWM!**

Collecting personal hygiene products is an ongoing project for 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 your items in the train box located in the narthex.

**Seeking Sunday
School Teachers**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS NEEDED
FOR THE NEW YEAR**

We need Sunday School Teachers for the new school year. Please contact Nikki Vrabec or the church office.

Thank you, Board of Christian Growth



Summer break is almost over, which means Rally Day is right around the corner!! Please join us September 8th for a congregational Sunday School lesson with Pastor. Rally Day is always a surprise from Pastor! So, if you're curious of what he has up his sleeve this year, come join us September 8th at 9am. Fellowship along with a hot breakfast will be served from 8:30-9:00am so come hungry!

Rally Day isn't the only thing to get excited about. Our Pre-k through High School aged members have new rooms and fresh paint to begin our new Sunday School year on September 15th! Come hang out with us for a fresh new start to the [2024-2025](#) Sunday School year.

Thank you, Board of Christian Growth



**LUTHERAN WITNESS
NEW SUBSCRIPTION
OR RENEWALS**

If you are interested in receiving the Lutheran Witness subscription or renewing the cost is \$29.99 through Concordia Publishing House without The Texas Messenger. Or you can request and pay the church to purchase the subscription for \$22.50. This includes the Texas Messenger. Please contact Maggie in the church office if you are interested in receiving the Lutheran Witness through the church and fill out the form located in the Narthex, along with the payment to Trinity Lutheran Church and place in offering plate.



A Prayer for Our Children

Lord, please bless every child that will be attending school. I pray that You give them strength and courage while attending. Keep them safe while in school. Please guide them as they learn and grow. I ask this in your precious name. Amen.



**We need your help to make
LWR School Kits**

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF needs your help to make school kits. Please bring and place your items in the container located in the narthex.

Items Needed:

- Four** – 70 Sheet Notebooks
- One** – 30-Centimeter Rulers
- One** – Pencil Sharpener
- One** - Blunt Scissor
- Five** – Unsharpened #2 Pencils
- One** – 2 1/2” Eraser
- Five** – Black/Blue Ballpoint Pens
- One** – Box Of 16 Or 24 Crayons



*“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”
(Psalm 100:4)*

As we are preparing to start our new 2024-2025 school year, the most important thought that comes to me is thanking and praising God for walking beside me every step of the way.

The joy in my heart is when returning preschoolers give Pastor Bersche a high-five and the excitement on their faces to hurry to see their teachers when they enter their classrooms with their new friends.

But for the ones that are attending for the first time, and I know it takes a few days, breaks my heart as they enter knowing mom is leaving them, they do not know anyone, and they cry because they are scared. This is where teamwork comes in to hold, hug, love, and attend to their needs. Letting them know that God is watching over them and Jesus loves them. This is the beginning when we talk and share what Jesus is all about.

God’s love for us never fails. Even when we make mistakes, He’s still there to love us and pick us back up again. It reminds me of the Bible and how true the Bible it is to me. That is how I know to hold Jesus close to my heart. I trust God to always be good to me. He’s going to give me all

the strong help I need to do his will as he always does. God is always for all of us and never against us when we trust Him.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool Board Members for 2024-2025 School Year are:

- Becky Tipton
- Elizabeth Machala
- Pam Epperly
- Donna Emshoff
- Barbara Havemann
- Karina Carr

Trinity Lutheran Preschool Teachers for 2024-2025 School Year are:

- Pam Joseph – Two-Year-Old Class
- Arielle Pitcock – Three-Year-Old Class
- Kristi Flores – Older Four-Year-Old Class
- Robin Jacobson – Asst. Director

*Monday, August 5th

Ms. Maggie’s First Day Back to Preschool.

*Sunday, August 11th.

Preschool Board Meeting

*Monday August 12th.

Teachers First Day Back.

*Tuesday and Thursday August 13th and August 15th
Preschool Staff Orientation
8:00 am – 12:00 pm.

*Thursday, August 22nd

Meet the Teacher
6:00 pm-7:00pm

*Monday, August 26th

The First Day of Preschool

I would like to say a Great Huge Thank You to everyone in advance for all your love, support and prayers for the preschool. You are greatly appreciated! May every preschooler and their family be touch by the love of Jesus.

Ms. Maggie



**TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

July 15, 2024

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by John Vrablec. John Vrablec 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 – Board of Education Chairman
- Joann Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Pastor Ken Bersche
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary

Absent:

- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman
- Preschool

The Minutes from the meeting held on June 10, 2024, were presented for review and approval. David Novosad made a motion to accept the minutes. Nikki Vrablec seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- No old business.

Chairmen Reports:

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

- June Report - As of June 30, 2024, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$31,224.08. The Building Fund balance was \$40,913.11 and the Designated Fund balance was \$99,227.60. The Total of All Funds was \$171,364.79. The total contributions for June were \$21,485.00 and total expenses for June were \$22,507.78. The total contributions for the year 2024 were \$143,214.87 while the total expenses for the year were \$133,580.71.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Special contributions for the month included:
 - \$683.20 donation for Camp Lone Star
 - \$1,000.00 donation for HVAC
 - \$150.00 for Gym Rental.

Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman

- A video projector has been installed in the gym. Waiting on electrical wiring and the cage protector.

Terry Hankins – Vice President

- Nothing to report.

Pastor Bersche –

- Still visiting shut ins.
- Bible Classes:
 - Sunday Mornings - Matthew 21.
 - Wednesday Mornings starting in September - 1 John
- Confirmation Parent Meeting is scheduled for August 25.

Nikki Vrablec - Board of Education Chairman

- A request was made to paint the JH/High School room upstairs. After a short discussion, Ruth Szymanski made a motion to allow the room to be painted. Janice Wied seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Joann Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- July 21 is Pastor Bersche’s 30th Ordination Anniversary Luncheon - 115 plates have been ordered.

George Wied – Trustee Chairman

- Minor repairs continue.
- Working to fix the leak from the ice maker in the kitchen.

David Novosad – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Preschool -

- No report

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

- No new business.

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 closed with prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, August 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. and John Vrablec will have the devotion.

*John Vrablec - President
Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary*

Congratulations on your 30th Anniversary Ordination



**Glad you are here with us at
Trinity Lutheran Church, Sealy**