



Building His Body By
Reflecting the Son

TRINITY TIDBITS

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



Who Defines Us?

In Matthew's Gospel, it is quite interesting to note the reaction of the chief priests and scribes to

Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem and especially his cleansing the temple. Their response is to attempt to trap Him in His own words. They have a number of attempts at putting Jesus under their authority. Here I want to point out their first attempt. They question His authority by coming up to Him and simply asking the question: "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

Jesus gives an intriguing answer. He does not just say, "My Father!" but instead He asks them a question. His question is quite simple: "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?"

Now Jesus knew the thoughts of their hearts. They discussed it among themselves and considered the outcome of their answer. If they say that John was from God, Jesus will ask why they didn't believe him. But if they say John was from man they could have more problems on their hands with the people because they held him to be a prophet. So, they answered Jesus' question with the simple, "We do not know!"

At this point, I think it is important for us to ask this question concerning ourselves. Who defines us? Or as Jesus says, "From where do we come? From heaven or from man?" When we gather together as a church are we merely an earthly gathering of folks or are we gathered for a greater purpose. This is not a trick question! The answer is obvious. We are from God- baptized into Christ death and resurrection and receiving Christ's very body and blood given for our forgiveness.

Yes, we at Trinity Lutheran Church are made up of sinful human beings. At the same time, however, God defines us as His people through His Son, Jesus. Our sins are done away with by Jesus' death on the cross. We are given life eternal by the One who is our life. So, who defines us as the people in Sealy at Trinity Lutheran Church?

The answer to the simple question is complex. On the one hand we are our parents' children. We come from human descent and as men and women we are covered in sin. Yet on the other hand, we come from God because He has called us to faith in Jesus through Baptism and given us forgiveness and life.

*In Christ Alone,
Pastor Ken*

**October
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

Church Secretary
Maggie Kent
secmaggie@tlcsealy.org

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)



10/01 Lorrene Schiller	10/05 Cade Langton	10/15 Beth Franke	10/25 Danny Darrow
10/02 Gilbert Franke	10/05 Jill Sullivan	10/18 Maggie Kent	10/25 Jeannette Simmons
10/03 Stephen Franklin	10/07 MASON DZIADEK	10/18 TYLER RAMON	10/27 Kelly Kruzel
10/03 Rachel Villalovoz	10/08 Barbara Havemann	10/18 WADE WILKERSON	10/28 DESTIN STEINHAUSER
10/04 Joel Grigar	10/09 Ronnie Thrasher	10/18 WYATT WILKERSON	10/29 Pastor Ken Bersche
10/04 Nathan Romano	10/12 Ursula Kutra	10/20 Vera Schmidt	10/29 Timothy Ramon
10/04 Larry Schulke	10/12 April Schmidt	10/20 BRANTLEE VRABLEC	10/31 Robert Herridge
10/04 Dorthy Sliva	10/13 WILLIAM FULLEN	10/21 Dianne Clover	10/31 Betty Remmert
10/05 MICAH KRUZEL	10/14 Doris Schaffner	10/24 Bryant Schiller	10/31 Patricia Rother



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)

10/04/1997
10/16/1993

Bryant & Melinda Schiller
Mark & Patsy Romano

10/20/2011
10/31/2021

Brett & Brittany Carter
Megan and Alex Castro



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



Sympathy for the family of Carrie Steinbach who went to be with her Lord on Sunday, September 8, 2024. Please keep her daughter, Rebecca Tipton and the rest of the family in your prayers.



Sympathy for the family of Bob Witte who went to be with his Lord on Monday, September 9, 2024. Please keep his wife Ruth and the rest of the family in your prayers.



Sympathy for the family of Jane Brown, aunt to Pastor Bersche, went to be with her Lord on Sunday, September 22, 2024. Please keep Pastor Bersche and the rest of the family in your prayers.



Sympathy for the family of Cindy Duval who went to be with her Lord on Saturday, September 21, 2024. Please keep Janice and George Wied and niece, Sarah Duval in your prayers.



COME JOIN US FOR CIRCLE OF FRIENDS LUNCHEON on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at 12:15 pm. Please call Mary Buechmann if you have any questions at 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!



To the Members of the Ladies Aid

The Tipton and Steinbach families would like to thank you for your service and dedication to the members of Trinity Lutheran Church. Your kind and compassionate ways provided a lovely lunch for those who attended the funeral of Carrie Steinbach. We would also like to say a gracious thank you to all who donated food and to the funeral committee who helped to serve and clean up.

We are ever so grateful,
Dennis and Rebecca Tipton
John and Deborah Steinbach



SERVING AT TRINITY

we are needing able men and women to serve in several positions to further God's kingdom.

This year we will need to fill the following positions: Please consider serving in one of the following services of our congregation: TRUSTEE, USHER, and SECRETARY. Contact a council member or call the church office if you are interested in serving our congregation. Council members you may contact are:

John Vrabec, Terry Hankins, Ruth Szymanski
Joanne Dixon, David Novosad,
Kimberly Kornegay, Barry Wolf
George Wied, Janice Wied or Nikki Vrabec



THANK YOU.....

If you have been in the gym lately, you may have noticed that we have a new updated projection system. We have needed this for years. This will be used by different organizations of the church but will be especially valuable for our youth.

This projection system was made possible by a very generous donation from the family of Patsy Novosad in her memory. Patsy had a great love for children, and this is such an appropriate way to honor her.

Thank you very much to all the family of Patsy Novosad. Her memory will live on!

Thrivent Choice

September 10, 2024
Amount of Deposit
\$129.00. Please take

time and call 1-800-847-4836 and designate your funds to Trinity Lutheran General Fund. **The one before this was \$30.00 in July.**



THE BLESSING BOX PROJECT

Next Blessing Box Project is Wednesday, October 9th 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!



PRESCHOOL PANCAKE BREAKFAST!



Had an awesome turnout with my parents and grandparents! Thank you, Pastor Bersche, Pat and Mary Buechmann for flipping pancakes, congregational members who came to eat, and my great assistant Robin Jacobson for all the work of cleaning and sanitizing. Preschool made \$455.00 for FBI Criminal Background Checks on new teachers.

God's Blessings, Ms. Maggie

CARING FOR KIDS

The Sealy Christian Food Pantry is always looking out for children during the holidays who do not have enough to eat. The Pantry, Trinity Lutheran Church, and the Preschool come together to help by donating food items specifically for children. It is the Christian responsibility of the congregation, Preschool, and parents to teach the little ones about need, hunger, and generosity. There are families out there that are not making ends meet and sometimes food is short changed to make the rent. Through our church families and preschool families, we can guide our students by helping them pick out food that they like and would like to share with those who are not as fortunate as they are.

Suggestions from the Sealy Christian Food Pantry are: peanut butter, jelly, small individual cereal



THE LADIES AID TEAM are looking for volunteers to help with receptions for funerals which includes bringing sandwiches, a

dessert, or to help in the kitchen. Please contact Antoinette Romano or Joanne Dixon if you would like to help or have questions.

breakfast packs, pop tarts, Chef Boyardee microwavable little meals, ramen noodles, mac and cheese microwave cups, containers of readymade jello, puddings, peaches, fruit cups, apple sauce, boxes of small individual chips, little Debbie muffins, little Debbie snacks or whatever your child or kids will eat. You can place your items in the wheelbarrow that is located as you walk through the double glass doors. We will continue collecting through the month of October and into the third week of November. I have a large box that Ms. Robin and I will fill when the wheel barrel is overflowing. Sue Kristynik or someone from the Food Pantry will come by and pick up the food before the Thanksgiving holidays. Depending on how much is collected with the food they need can help feed children during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Let's all work and fill many boxes to help these children who are hungry.

God's Blessings, Ms. Maggie



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

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



REMINDER CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL OFFICES

Closed Thursday and Friday, October 10th & 11th for Austin County Fair Parade and Rodeo.



WORSHIP AND MISSION SUNDAY POTLUCK!

Mark your calendar and please attend Sunday, October 27th for Worship and MISSION SUNDAY POTLUCK!



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Will take place after church on Sunday, October 27, 2023. Please attend church and stay for the meeting. Budget sheets are in the narthex. Please pick one up to view.



FALL BACK!

November 3rd ends daylight savings time at 2 am. Please set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night before you go to bed to be ready for Sunday morning to attend church.

Trinity Lutheran Women in Mission (TLWM) has a lot happening in October! Please join us!

In October, the **Orphan Grain Train box** will be back in the hallway between the narthex and gym! Consider donating personal hygiene items such as bath towels, washcloths, bars of soap in original wrapper, plastic soap boxes, toothbrushes, Band-Aids, combs, travel package size tissues, and nail clippers.

Please continue to donate diapers and baby items to the **Sealy Pregnancy Resource Center** basket located in the hallway between the narthex and gym.

October 6th is LWML Sunday. LWML is an official auxiliary of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. TLWM is LWML! LWML places a major emphasis on the support of mission and ministry throughout the world. TLWM has planned a **Mission and Ministry Walk** for **October 6th**. We plan to walk around the park or in the gym and to think about mission and ministry. Plan to walk with us and/or give a free will donation to the Sealy Pregnancy Resource Center or a mission or ministry of your choice. The walk will begin after church and continue until 2:30. Come Walk, or visit, for a bit!

We will not have a meeting on **October 8th**. Any business we have will be discussed at the Mission and Ministry Walk or on the drive to the Fall Rally in Victoria!

October 26th is the FALL RALLY OF THE MID-COAST ZONE OF LWML! It will be in Victoria, and we plan to carpool! Call Trine Hultstrand for carpooling arrangements and any questions.

YOU ARE INVITED---PLEASE COME!!!
THE FALL RALLY OF THE MID-COAST ZONE LWML
 (Women in Mission)
Where: Grace Lutheran Church 361-573-2232
 9806 NE Zac Lentz Pkwy
 Victoria, TX 77904
 RSVP to Church Office or Dotty Koetter:
dottyandskip@yahoo.com by 10/23/24
When: Saturday, October 26, 2024
Time: 10:30 Registration
Lunch: Assorted Soups, Bread, Desserts
Guest Speaker
Linda Palmer from the Gabriel Project/Bethlehem Maternity Home
Gathering Gifts to help Moms and Babies



Preschool Open House will take place on Wednesday, October 23rd 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend this event, including the

congregation. Parents you may bring grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends, and family. This is a great time for everyone to come together and see some of the work the children have completed and for the families and friends to visit classrooms and teachers. Here are my Open House Night suggestions for parents from a teacher's point of view. Go early. This evening is somewhat social, and you might want time to chat with other parents. The preschool teachers and their classrooms are on display. Make this a positive experience for your child and everyone.



Western Day! On Tuesday, October 8th,

the children may dress in western clothes for Western Day to promote Austin County Fair. Each child may dress in western jeans, boots, shirts, belts, hats, and a bandana. If your child decides to wear spurs, this is fine, except if they are hurting another child, then the spurs will be removed. Let's get out our cowboy hats and boots!



Gun Safety! On Wednesday, October 16th, Retired Trooper Gary Pflughaupt will come to the preschool to talk to the children about

Gun Safety. Mr. Gary, as the children call him, knows that a lot of children go hunting with their dads and grandpas and would like to keep the little ones safe. Mr. Gary will also explain to the children the importance of what to do if you find a gun, for example, at a friend's house. What do you do with a gun? Mr. Gary will also talk about how to use play guns and not to point guns at others. Let's see what the children can learn during Gun Safety!



Wear Blue Day! Since we are learning

blue for the month, we would like the children to wear something BLUE to preschool on Friday, October 18th. Children can wear blue clothes, socks, shoes, hair bows, neckties or whatever you can think of to reinforce blue!



Fire Prevention! The Sealy Fire

Department will come to the preschool on Friday, October 25th at 10:00 am. They will teach the children to stop, drop and roll in case of a fire. Children will enjoy the morning with the Sealy Fire Department as they learn about Fire Safety, since October is Fire Prevention Month. One of the important things that the firemen will teach the children is not to be afraid of them or hide from them in case they are in a burning house. Firemen are

there to help and rescue them even though their equipment may be scary. The firemen will also teach the children how important an escape route is for the entire family and the importance of smoke detectors. This is an important lesson, please try to have your child at school.



Harvest Party! The preschool Harvest

Party for the entire preschool will be Wednesday, October 30th 9:30 am-10:30 am. We would like the children to come dressed as one of Noah Ark's animals. We have in the past had great and unique costumes, such as ladybugs, puppy dogs, sheep, kitty cats, cows, and lots more. There are so many simple ways to dress your child as an animal without spending a lot of money.

There will be a sign-up list for refreshments and games. We need parents to help in supervising the children with games that the preschool provides. I will need help with setting up, tearing down, wiping tables and chairs, sweeping, and cleaning the kitchen after the party.

If you can help with games or refreshments, please place your name on the sign-up list. Only parents that sign up to help with the party by supervising activity stations can attend. Whoever signs up first will be able to come and help with the party. We will have more parties throughout the year for you to participate.



Mrs. Beth Franke, a retired Librarian, will come to preschool to read to the children on Thursday, October 31st.



Carving Pumpkin Day We will carve pumpkins on Friday, November 1st. The

preschoolers will have a blast to help clean out the pumpkin and listen how God uses a pumpkin. Not only does God wash us clean from the outside, but he also removes our sin, and in doing that we are washed clean and made new from the inside out. This is a new creation, a jack-o-lantern, with a joy-filled face. Jesus does that with us.



Themes for the month of October are Family, Fire, Fall, Leaves, Harvest and Pumpkins. The color for the month is BLUE, the

shapes are circle and rectangle, and the children will continue to learn the letters i, m, f, s, a, and d. We teach the children the sounds and names of these letters. Using picture boxes or object boxes helps the children to recognize the name and sounds to the first batch of letters to begin putting silly words together. Children will continue learning go-togethers, matching, categorizing etc.



Social Focus for the preschoolers will be thankful that God loves and protects us our family and friends. Family and God and how to be obedient to our parents, loving each other unconditionally, contributing to the household and how these values reflect God’s values for people. Following directions is one of the most important social skills that children develop. Be it in the classroom, at home with the family or on the sporting field, a child who can listen, understand, and then follow instructions and directions will go a long way.



Reminder Preschool is closed for Austin County Fair and Rodeo, Wed. Thurs. and Fri. October 9th 10th and 11th.



Chapel Time Children have been learning the First Commandment and this month we are adding the Second Commandment: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks. They will continue The Lord’s prayer. The monthly Bible verse is “God is Love.” (1 John 4:8)

Bible Stories for the month of October are:

Week of Monday Nov. 30th Pharaoh’s Dream pg. 78 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Joseph Saves His Family pg. 86 A Baby in a Basket pg. 92	Week of Monday Oct. 21st Ten Commandments pg. 120 Chapel with Pastor Bersche Twelve Spies pg. 124 Joshua and the Spies pg. 128 The Battle of Jericho pg. 132
Week of Monday Oct. 6th The Burning Bush pg. 98 Wed/Thur/Fri-Closed	Week of Monday Oct. 28th Deborah Leads the Way pg. 136 Gideon’s Battle pg. 140 Chapel with Pastor Bersche
Week of Monday Oct. 14th Chapel with Pastor Bersche Ten Plagues pg. 104 The Red Sea pg. 111 Food From Heaven pg. 116	

Family 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 October are:

Week of Monday Nov. 7th (FAIR) No Family	Week of Monday Oct. 21st Nicholas Brown
Week of Monday Oct. 14th Colby Bermea	Week of Monday Oct. 28th Katie Bruce



Reinforcing the Rules at Trinity!

Thank you to all the parents in helping reinforce the rules of the preschool. So far this year we have such great parents with very well-behaved and disciplined children. Thank you for helping children learn the consequences of their actions and promote self-discipline. Thank you for being consistent, which is the most major and effective way of discipline which is guidance.

If later throughout the year, your child comes home with a behavior report or the teacher lets you know about your child’s day with inappropriate behavior, remember the guidance of reinforcing and talking to your child about what happened at preschool. Please help him/her understand the circumstances of inappropriate and appropriate behavior.

God’s Blessings, Ms. Maggie



**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 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
- Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer
- Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman
- Nikki Vrablec – Board of Education Chairman
- Joanne Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman
- Pastor Ken Bersche
- George Wied – Trustee Chairman
- David Novosad – Usher Chairman
- Kimberly Kornegay – Secretary
- Preschool - Karina Carr

Absent:

- Terry Hankins – Vice President
- Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman

The Minutes from the meeting held on August 12, 2024, were presented. George Wied made a motion to accept the minutes. Nikki Vrablec seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- 2025 Proposed Budget - After a short discussion Nikki Vrablec made a motion to accept the 2025 Proposed Budget. Janice Wied seconded the motion. All Council members approved, and the motion passed.

Chairmen Reports:

Ruth Szymanski – Treasurer

- August Report - As of August 31, 2024, the cash balance in the General Fund was \$24,365.60. The Building Fund balance was \$41,326.05 and the Designated Fund balance was \$92,840.65. The Total of All Funds was \$158,532.30. The total contributions for August were \$23,039.00 and total expenses for August were \$22,713.11. The total contributions for the year 2024 were \$185,633.47 while the total expenses for the year were \$183,647.07.

Janice Wied – Stewardship Chairman

- Special contributions for the month included:
 - \$183.20 donation for HVAC
 - \$150.00 for Gym Rental.

Barry Wolf – Elder Chairman

- No report.

Terry Hankins – Vice President

- No report.

Pastor Bersche –

- Still visiting shut-ins.
- Official Acts:
 - Transfer out of Trinity Lutheran on 8/8/2024 - Lee and Kimberly Hobratschk
- Bible Classes:
 - Sunday Mornings - Matthew 22.
 - Wednesday Mornings - 1 John
- October 27 - Mission Festival Sunday. There will be a guest speaker.
- October 27 - Semi-annual congregational meeting after the 10:00 worship service.

Nikki Vrablec - Board of Education Chairman

- Sunday School rooms are ready today.
- Youth room has been repainted.
- Thank you to the Ladies Aid for donating gift cards to give to Sunday Schoolers to celebrate their birthdays.

Joanne Dixon – Fellowship Outreach Chairman

- The Ice Cream Social on Rally Sunday was a success.
- Plans are underway for Mission Festival Sunday.

George Wied – Trustee Chairman

- Everything is running smoothly.
- Working on re-mulching flower beds around the church.

David Novosad – Usher Chairman

- Nothing to report.

Preschool - Karina Carr

- Everything is going well so far with the preschool.
- Pam Joseph turned in her two-week resignation.
- Pay raises for the 2024-2025 school year were discussed. Maggie, Kristi, and Robin would receive a \$1.00/hr. increase, and the new teachers would start at \$10/hr. Ruth Szymanski made a motion to approve these increases in salary. Joanne Dixon seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.

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

New Business

- An email was sent to the church office from Senior Health Services out of Tomball, TX wishing to send a speaker to Trinity. After Council discussion, Nikki Vrablec made a motion to decline having the speaker come to Trinity. Janice Wied seconded the motion. All Council members agreed, and the motion passed.
- A Nominating Committee is being organized to seek out members to run for an office on the Church Council. The Nominating Committee will consist of:
 - Pastor Bersche
 - 1 Elder
 - 1 Church Council Member - Joanne Dixon
 - 2 Congregation Members -

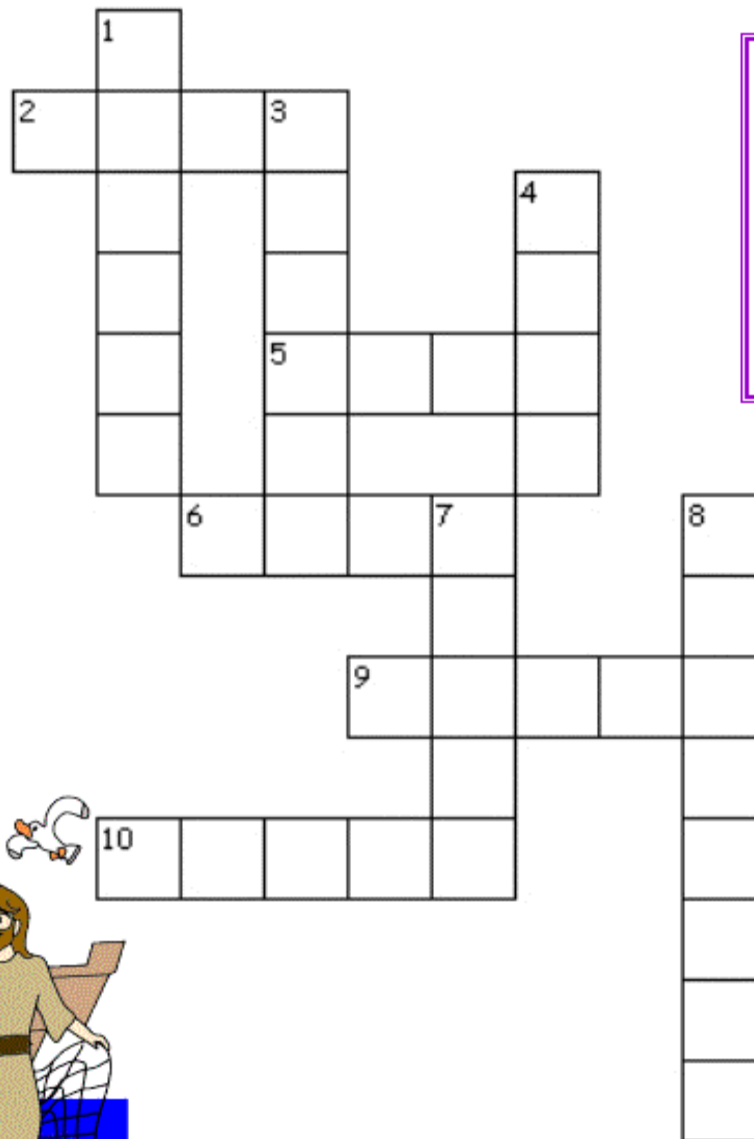
There being no further business, George Wied made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nikki Vrablec seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned and Pastor Bersche closed with prayer.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. and Ruth Szymanski will have the devotion.

John Vrablec - President
Kimberly Kornegay - Secretary

Twelve Disciples Crossword

**Sunday School
Kids
Crossword
Puzzle**



Word List:
boat follow
disciple heal
James learn
left Simon
nets twelve



Across

2. Jesus sometimes taught from inside this.
5. The disciples ___ everything and followed Jesus.
6. Jesus gave the disciples authority to drive out evil spirits and ___ every disease.
9. John's brothers' name.
10. From this disciple's boat Jesus taught and performed a miracle with fish.

Down

1. Jesus said, "___ me and I will make you fishers of men".
3. This is the number of disciples Jesus chose.
4. Jesus told the disciples to let down their ___ and suddenly were able to catch fish.
7. We can be Jesus' disciples by trying to ___ all we can about Him.
8. The name for follower of Jesus Christ.