

## Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco, Texas

Where:

*"God is Seen,  
Love is Felt,  
Lives are Changed"*

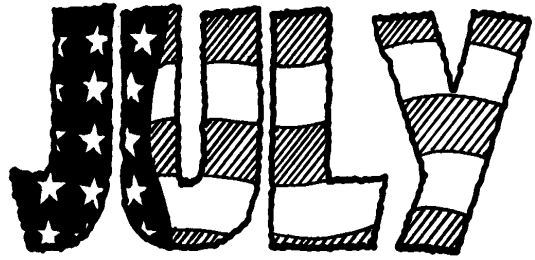
Ministers All People of Trinity  
Pastor Rev. David Mayer

Music Minister Leta Garcia  
Media Minister Sheila Mercer  
Parish Administrator Angie Daniels

### How to Contact Trinity:

- P.O. Box 487,  
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Rev. David Mayer  
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### July Events at Trinity:

**June 30-July 4—Pastor David, Youth & Sponsors attending Camp Eagle in Rock Springs**

**July 2—Sunday Morning Breakfast**, hosted by the Men's Group from 8:30-9:15a.m. in the fellowship hall

**July 3-4—Church Office closed for Holiday**

**July 5—Barnabas Time** for Stephen Ministers, 6pm, fellowship hall

### **\*\*Thursdays are MOVIE NIGHTS at Trinity**

Each Thursday in July, Trinity will show a Christian movie in the fellowship hall, everyone is welcome to invite a friend to join them, popcorn will be provided!

**July 6-11—Secretary on vacation**

**July 12—Council of Ministries Meeting**, 6pm

**July 17-21—VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL this week from 9am-Noon**

**July 28-29—LCMC Texas District Annual Gathering**, St. Paul Lutheran Church, New Braunfels

**July 30—Potluck Luncheon TODAY!** Plan on staying after worship at 11:00a.m. for lunch in the fellowship hall. This is a time to gather together for great food & fellowship—don't miss it!!

### **Trinity Mission Statement:**

Not having it all together, nor pretending to, our quest is to help in making mature, authentic disciples through teaching and preaching sound Biblical doctrine that will inform, inspire, equip, and connect God's people to God and to each other, and to evangelize with the Good News.



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**Trinity Tribe, Friends in Christ:**

**The Work of Ministry**

In the last weeks I have been able to be about ministry, personally engaging with people doing my best to bring the love and care of God. This is a great opportunity for me to get to know people. However, what is equally exciting and rewarding is that there are people in our congregation who are doing the same thing. They are serving people, praying for them, being with them in their time of need and bringing help in acts of service and kindness. That is ministry. It is a work as unto the Lord. I know it happens more than I am aware, and I know that the Lord could not be more pleased. I am deeply satisfied. When the people of God live as people living for God, great things happen. Thank you all!

**Camp Eagle**

Trinity Lutheran Blanco had a great problem this year. They had enough men volunteers to go to camp as adult sponsors. Now that's a great problem to have. I, however, have always gone to camp with our youth. So, I found out that I can stay on campus at Camp Eagle and participate with our youth activities, including eating with them. That means I might get to do the big zip-line. Big swing? No. I'll leave that to Ashley and the others. Please pray for cooler weather for us!

**Confirmation Class**

We have several of our youth who are at Confirmation age (7th or 8th grade). We haven't figured out how we will work out the class this year. If you are a parent and have any ideas, let me know. I will be getting together with parents, and we can figure out what works.

**Bible Study**

I would like to begin a Bible study for men (I can also begin one for a mixed group if needed). If you are interested in this, please let me know. Time and frequency to be determined. If you want something more structured, consider the following Harvest Workers course.

**Harvest Workers**

Beginning in the fall I would like to invite a group to take my online Harvest Workers course on the New Testament. It is a survey, an overview, of the New Testament. There are 36 video presentations, most of them about a book of the New Testament. Students will do the prep work, including watching a video each week on their own. Then, once a week, we will gather as a group or cohort, and discuss that week's lesson. By the time we are through you will have had a fairly comprehensive overview of the New Testament and how to understand it. You will need a computer, a tablet or smartphone to access the course online.

Your brother in Christ,  
Pastor Dave

**Serving on Altar Duty in July—**

During the month of June, Ashley Finch, Sandy Switzer, Karen Steiger and Sally Anderson prepared the altar for Sunday worship. Thank you, ladies for your service to the Lord and Trinity Lutheran Church!

On duty during the month of July will be Marcie Wagner, Pam Nabers, Connie Cox and Rosalind Ellis. If you are interested in serving Trinity as a member of the Altar Guild, please contact Bonnie Triesch, at

210-705-2811. Trinity's Altar Guild has groups of 3-4 members who serve, in a rotating schedule, during the year.

## Happenings in June:

Trinity's former interim pastor, Patrick Welton, was installed as pastor of Peace Lutheran Church (NALC) in Rockdale, Texas on June 11. Four members of Trinity's congregation, Wayne and Martha Gosnell, and Hal and Sandy Switzer, attended the installation along with Welton family and friends and visiting pastors.



Pastor Patrick's church, founded in 1883, is in a small rural community, a bit larger than Blanco, located about an hour northeast of Austin. The whole Welton family celebrated as did Pastor Patrick's new congregation. *Submitted by Wayne Gosnell*

## **MEMORIALS IN JUNE**

**In Memory of Roy Bruemmer**  
By Edward & Patricia Weirich  
Paula Schwebel and GFS Retirement Office  
Clara Gourley

### **Sign Up to Deliver Meals on Wheels in August! (We need YOU!)**



Trinity Lutheran Church participates in the Meals on Wheels program for the Blanco community by organizing volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound each January and August. (We also pitch in a week or two during the month of May, if requested.)

A sign-up sheet has been posted in the narthex for volunteers to sign up on Sunday mornings. Meals are picked up from our fellowship hall kitchen by **10:30am** on Tuesdays only so that delivery can be completed by Noon. For more information, call the church office at 830-833-4771 or Lainie Parker, MOW Coordinator, at 830-554-0564.

### ***Women's News for July: Have a Safe & Happy Summer!***

**Sunday Morning Breakfasts:** Women's Ministry's next opportunity to host the congregation at a breakfast will be **August 7<sup>th</sup>**. The Esther and Ruth Women's Service Teams will be providing the breakfast from 8:30-9:15a.m. in the fellowship hall.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**—Crocheters, knitters, and crafters are needed to create prayer shawls. These shawls are prayed over and dedicated at worship before being given to anyone in need of God's comfort and peace. Shawls have been gifted to cancer patients, those who've lost a loved one, or anyone in need of a reminder that God loves and cares for them.



As of June, however, we had only 2 shawls left! If you need directions for how to create a shawl, or know of someone that might benefit from one, please contact the church office.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

**Mark your calendars: the next Women's Ministry Gathering will be Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>!** All Women of Trinity are invited to enjoy fellowship, lunch, and planning for Women's Ministry this fall. We gather in the fellowship hall at Noon followed by a short discussion of upcoming events.

### **Sometimes It's Hard to Ask for Help**

We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So, we try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for others—and allow others to care for us in our time of need.

If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. (It's confidential too!)

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***Find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with the Pastor or Sandy Switzer, our Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator. Trinity's Stephen Ministers are there to care!***

### **News From Your Council of Ministries**

Jerry Gass—President	Travis Kersten—Worship
Hal Switzer—Vice-President	Karen Wagner—Evangelism
Karen Steiger—Secretary	Norman Eubank—Property
Medora Beckmann—Treasurer	Ashley Finch—Education/Youth
Sheri Riley—Financial Secretary	Sally Anderson—Stewardship

### **COUNCIL NOTES—from the May 10, 2023 Meeting**

President Jerry Gass called the meeting to order at 6:13pm. Council members present were Sally Anderson, Medora Beckmann, Ashley Finch, Jerry Gass, Pastor David Mayer, Sheri Riley, Karen Steiger, Hal Switzer, and Karen Wagner.

Pastor David gave a devotional based on thoughts from Henry Blackaby's book Experiencing God and Exodus 33:15. He challenged us not to substitute our accomplishments and victories over experiencing God's presence and our fellowship with Him. A living relationship with God is of utmost importance.

There were no corrections to the Minutes of the April 12, 2023, Council meeting. Action items were discussed. Including non-Council members of the congregation to help as Communion Assistants was approved. Rather than changing the Church Constitution at this time, it was decided that it would be done on a trial basis for a while. Karen W made a motion to accept the Minutes, Sheri seconded the motion, and the Council members accepted the motion.

Sheri gave the Financial Report for April 2023. Medora gave the Treasurer's Report as of April 25, 2023. Jerry reported that Angie's Quick Books version is no longer being supported, so after much searching, she decided to keep the current version, but payroll will be done alongside Quick Books...rather than by Quick Books.

Pastor David gave his report. He recommended Rocky and Melanie Chisholm for membership. He also spoke of the online app available to our members listed in the directory. Instant Church Mobile App is secured by creating an account with member's listed email address and personal password. Council members liked his idea. Pastor would also like to have devotionals and special books on hand to give out as needed.

Pastor would also like to have Bible Studies available during the week. A Harvest Workers study would probably begin this Fall. And he is very interested in providing fellowship with and mentoring among other pastors in an organized fashion.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

--Youth & Education – Ashley announced that there were three Youth Scholarship applicants... Cooper Riley, Makenzie Bellman, and Katie Skeen. The Scholarship Committee met and decided to award each of them \$1,500.00. Flag Football practice starts June 19<sup>th</sup>, and the games will be held on Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00am starting July 8<sup>th</sup> until August 12<sup>th</sup>. No final figures have been totaled on the Walk-a-thon. Youth Camp will be held June 30 - July 4.

--Stewardship – Sally will meet with Wayne Gosnell and Pastor David to put together a simplified report format of Stewardship topics and activities. Thank-you letters were received from Ethnomedia and Lutherans For Life.

--Evangelism – Karen W reported that there have been a lot of "food events". April 30<sup>th</sup> fifth Sunday potluck, May 7<sup>th</sup> first Sunday breakfast, and Pastor's Installation Reception were all successful and well attended. She will purchase roses to be handed out on Mother's Day. Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> the Trinity Takeaways will prepare meals to be frozen and used when needed. Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> will be Senior Recognition Sunday. Kolton Gaskamp is our only senior. Men's Group will meet on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

--Worship – In Travis' absence, Jerry's only concern centered around the podcast issue which he still has not been able to discuss with Norman.

--Property – Norman was not available to give a report. Pastor David did confirm that several light bulbs were changed around the property, and that a baby changing table was installed in the Women's Restroom.

--Ashley made a motion to accept the Committee Reports and Sheri seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the Council members present.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- The Communion Assistants schedule was completed through Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, if Ron Bigler and Wayne Gosnell would be good with their assigned Sundays.
- The photo directory was discussed. Downloading the photos is in progress.
- Preparations for VBS (July 17-21) continue as enrollment is at maximum capacity. The last Youth Sunday School will be May 21<sup>st</sup>.
- It was suggested by Pastor that a small committee be formed to review Trinity's membership list... to review, encourage and update.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Pastor requested days off, May 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, while his son and daughter-in-law are visiting. July 30<sup>th</sup> is our next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck.
- Council decided to encourage after Sunday Service fellowship by starting Sunday School at 11:00am rather than 10:45am as it is now. The Sunday Worship Service will continue to start at 9:30am. This new schedule will start on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Hal began a discussion on "online giving". Kathy Kersten found a 30-40-minute demo video for those interested to watch later. Those most impacted would be Sheila getting it set up on our website, Sally as our Stewardship person, Medora as Church Treasurer, and Sheri as Church Financial Secretary.
- Hal also announced that he spoke with an attorney, saw a presentation on "legal representation" with him, and has decided to insure everyone on the Response Team through US Law Shield.

Sheri made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Ashley seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm with everyone reciting The Lord's Prayer.

**JULY RESPONSIBILITIES**

*\*\*Please use this handy section to keep track of monthly responsibilities organized by Sunday. Each Sunday there are many important opportunities to serve your church. Call the office for more information*

	<b>July 2</b>	<b>July 9</b>	<b>July 16</b>	<b>July 23</b>	<b>July 30</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Danny & Julie Osterhout	Allen & Penny Lieck	Rodney & Helen Bruemmer	Jarrett & Alexis Pawelek	Trinity Youth
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	Arlene Hamlin	Mike & Sally Anderson	<i>In Memory of Paula Zercher by Clara Gourley</i>	<i>OPEN</i>	<i>OPEN</i>
<b>Usher Teams</b>	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley
	Team 3	Team 3	Team 4, Paul Granberg	Team 4, Paul Granberg	Team 5, Zane Smith
<b>Acolytes</b>	<i>(Youth attending Camp!)</i>	Briley Thomas	Creed Finch	Kacen Haas	Darby Kersten
<b>Lectors</b>	Lacy Lukich	Keith Morgenroth	Ron Bigler	Arlene Hamlin	Lacy Lukich
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<i>No communion</i>	Wayne Gosnell	<i>No communion</i>	Sheri Riley	<i>No Communion</i>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>In July:</b>	Marcie Wagner, Pam			

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## JULY 2023 EVENTS CALENDAR--TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO

Pastor: Rev. David Mayer--Worship: 9:30 AM (in person in the sanctuary or livestreamed on Facebook),  
 Sunday School: 11:00 AM in the fellowship hall

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> Youth, Sponsors & Pastor David at Camp Eagle
<b>2</b> <b>8:30-9:15am Breakfast</b> served by Men's Group in the fellowship hall	<b>3</b> Church Office closed today	<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day!</b> Church Office Closed for holiday <i>Campers Return from Camp Eagle today!</i>	<b>5</b>  6pm Barnabas Time for Stephen Ministers, here	<b>6</b> <i>Secretary Out of the Office</i>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 Communion</b>	<b>10</b>  <i>Secretary Out of the Office</i>	<b>11</b>  <i>Secretary Out of the Office</i>	<b>12</b>  6pm Council of Ministries meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  <i>VBS at Trinity! 9am-Noon</i>	<b>18</b>  <i>VBS at Trinity! 9am-Noon</i>	<b>19</b>  <i>VBS at Trinity! 9am-Noon</i>	<b>20</b>  <i>VBS at Trinity! 9am-Noon</i>	<b>21</b>  <i>VBS at Trinity! 9am-Noon</i>	<b>22</b>
<b>23—Communion</b>	<b>24</b>  <i>Newsletter articles due today</i>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <i>LCMC Texas District Annual Gathering begins at St. Paul, New Braunfels</i>	<b>29</b>  <i>Annual Gathering continues</i>
<b>30</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck</b> <b>today at 11:00a.m.</b>	<b>31</b>					



# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth



## It's Gathering Time! #SENT2023

Each year one of our highlights as a District is to come together for what we call our Annual Gathering. If you've been before, then you know what a treat it is! LCMC Texas has Gathered each summer since its inception in 2009 with only one exception in 2020. On July 28-29, our District will gather for the 14th Annual Gathering at St. Paul's, New Braunfels! I hope you will make plans to join us this year!

Our theme for the 2023 Gathering is SENT, based on Acts 1:8. As Jesus gathered with his disciples in his final moments before ascending into heaven, he sent them out saying "...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." What does it look like to be sent by Jesus in 2023? What does your Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and ends of the earth look like for you and your congregation as you respond in faith to Jesus' commissioning?

We are privileged to welcome Pastor Tilaye Daba to be our keynote speaker this year. Tilaye is the Director of the Global Mission Society for the largest and fastest growing Lutheran church body in the world: Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. He has dedicated his life to the mission of Jesus and been a leader in evangelism and theological education.

Over these past several months as my excitement and anticipation of Tilaye's visit has been building, I have shared this recurring thought: While we are all quite aware of Lutheran missionaries from America traveling to Africa, I think it is pretty special that the American church is now welcoming an African missionary! We have so much to learn from the Ethiopians, especially when it comes to being Jesus' witnesses in the world around us.

If you are reading this, then please know that this Gathering is for you. This isn't a conference just for pastors or church council members. It is for someone just like you! We gather for the purpose of encouraging the whole body of Christ for the sake of his mission. We worship together around God's Word and Sacrament; we fellowship together over good food, enjoying the company of our brothers and sisters in Christ; we are inspired by excellent, faithful communicators; we network with other pastors, churches, and ministry partners; and we learn from three of the 15 different breakouts offered. So please come gather with us!

I'd be remiss if I did not also mention the Youth Gathering and Lock-in. Middle and High School students are encouraged to come for a special Youth Gathering planned just for them. The Youth Gathering takes place concurrently and includes fun games, food, teaching time, and a mission project. Students will stay the night in the church facility, so no lodging is required.

To learn more and register, go to [www.lcmctexas.org/annual-gathering](http://www.lcmctexas.org/annual-gathering). We hope to see you in New Braunfels! Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at [www.harvestworkers.net](http://www.harvestworkers.net)). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Feel free to contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 ext. 2 or [bryce@lcmctexas.org](mailto:bryce@lcmctexas.org).

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### **Painting Project** **Completed by Youth**

In June, Creed Finch & Layla Lukich re-painted the kitchen wall facing the fellowship hall.

Ashley Finch, Youth/Education Councilmember, coordinated the project that freshened up the wall and repaired a hole in the sheetrock.

Be sure to thank Ashley, Creed and Layla for their great job and service to Trinity!

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**Trinity's men's group, the CMOB (Christian Men of Blanco) hosted the Blanco Ecumenical Christian Men's Breakfast on June 10.**

The CMOB prepared bacon, eggs, biscuits with gravy and all the trimmings. Pastor Dave gave the devotional.

57 men attended from Blanco, Johnson City, Spring Branch, and Comal County. \$409 was collected for Blanco's Ministerial Alliance, funds that are used to help folks



who need help, often people traveling through Blanco who need some assistance. If you are not getting the CMOB's announcements, contact the church office and get put on the email list!