



Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco, Texas

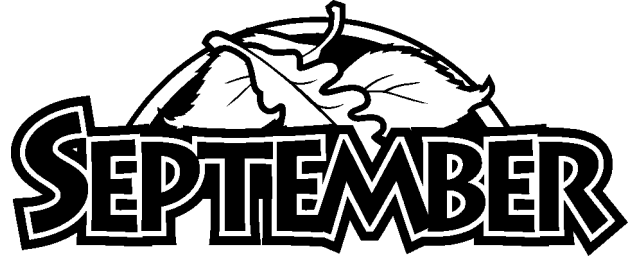
Where: "God is Seen,
Love is Felt,
Lives are Changed"

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,
703 North Main Street,
Blanco 78606
- Office: 830-833-4771
- Fax: 830-833-1381
- Email: trinityblanco@gvtc.com
- Website: www.trinityofblanco.com

Rev. David Mayer
Cell: 830-426-9146
Email: dtmayer75@yahoo.com



Events at Trinity:

Sept. 3—Breakfast at Trinity! Hosted by the Hannah & Deborah Women’s Service Teams from 8:30-9:15am in the fellowship hall

Sept. 4—Labor Day—Church Office Closed

Thursdays—Mom’s Bible Study, each Thursday in September in the fellowship hall 8:00-10:00a.m.

MOVIE NIGHTS—Thursday evenings from 7-9p.m. in the fellowship hall. For more information about movie titles, contact Cindy Hawkins at 210-336-8758 (Popcorn provided!)



Sept. 10—Confirmation Meeting for Parents to meet with Pastor, 11am



Sept. 12—Barnabas Time for Stephen Ministers, 6pm in the fellowship hall

Sept. 16—Confirmation Class, TBD

Sept. 19—Men’s Group meets for fellowship, TBA, at 6:30p.m. Contact Wayne Gosnell for more info (830-833-0586)

Sept. 20—Council of Ministries meeting, 6pm
Meeting moved to 3rd Wednesday due to BISD Homecoming activities

Sept. 30—Council Retreat, TBA at Trinity’s Fellowship Hall

 LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
 LOVE US IN PERSON

Dear Trinity Family,

Prayer Time

We need prayer warriors. We need to cover our ministry and people in prayer, as well as many who request God's blessing. I know many pray at home and "without ceasing" in many locations and circumstances; wonderful! However, it is also good to come together with one heart and mind and pray. Prayer time at church will be on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM.

Confirmation

We are ready to gear up for an exciting year of Confirmation. It is a course on basic Christian faith for 6th and 7th graders. We're going to have a good group of kids. I will meet with the parents ahead of time on September 10, during Sunday school. Confirmation will be held once a month on Saturdays. First session will be September 16th. Details TBD.

Harvest Workers New Testament Overview Course

We will meet for the first time on September 11 for orientation and clarification. Meeting times are 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM. There are a couple of you who may not be able to meet at those times. Let's talk and see what we can do.

Once we meet the first time, this will be the basic format: watch the video for the week and do whatever other assignments in the online course that you have time for. On Mondays we will discuss the past week's content and ideas that arise from it. You are not being graded or taking an exam! You will login to the Lifeway MinistryGrid website to access my videos and other parts of the course. The main thing is to get a clear overview of the New Testament in order to make disciples (followers of Jesus) who make disciples.

Awakening Lives to World Missions

I'm including Pastor Bill Moberly's flyer "10 Question Global Mission Check-up":

- ⦿ Are the majority of your members aware of your church's mission efforts, and are they personally involved in mission outreach in one of the three basic ways?
- ⦿ Does your church have a clear plan for outreach to your community, the country, the undesirable places many people would rather avoid, and the ends of the earth?
- ⦿ Is your mission team organized in a way that facilitates effective leadership in each of these geographic areas identified in question 2?
- ⦿ Is globally focused prayer encouraged and practiced during worship, in Sunday school and small groups, in your men's and women's groups, and in your ministries with children and youth?
- ⦿ Does missions permeate every area of your church's life 52 weeks a year?
- ⦿ Is an annual missions celebration focusing on your churches outreach locally, nationally, and internationally one of the most exciting events in the life of your church?

- ⦿ Does your church's giving to global missions reflect the high priority God places on reach the nations with the Gospel, especially the unreached?
- ⦿ Are growing numbers of your members involved in fruitful short-term mission teams and does your church provide effective training for members before they go and meaningful opportunities to share their experience when they return?
- ⦿ Is your church engaged in ongoing, strategic ministry partnerships with missionaries, nationals, or ministries that allow for the personal involvement of your members?
- ⦿ Does your church have a clear set of policies and guidelines to direct and sustain your mission outreach, including a plan to equip the missionaries God raises up out of your church?

Vacation

I will be at a school reunion in Pennsylvania over Labor Day Weekend and will be on vacation from August 30 through September 4.

Thanksgiving Community Meal Heads Up

Trinity Lutheran Church is on the roster to host the Community Thanksgiving meal this November 19, at 6:00 PM. We provide the turkey and dressing. Other churches bring the rest, including a speaker.

Cards & Letters



Thank you to all of our church family members who came out to help harvest grapes at the ranch in Kendalia. Because of you we had a successful season and really appreciate your time, labor and humor in keeping our vineyard going.

Gratefully, The Wagner Family

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS? Angie Daniels is looking for volunteers to call on to fill in at the church office when she is out of the office. The church office is staffed Mondays through Thursdays from 9am-Noon. No heavy lifting required! Instead Volunteers are needed to answer the phone, fold bulletins, or assist the Pastor. If you are interested, call Angie at the church office at 830-833-4771

Altar Guild Report—Thank you to Marie Anna Lindeman, Sharon Cox, Karla Riley and Connie Russell for their service to the altar during the 4 Sundays in August. During the month of September, Arlene Hamlin, Lacy Lukich, Sharon Wolbrecht, and Cindy Hawkins will prepare the altar for services.

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's chosen ministry is to serve on a rotating schedule during the year to prepare the altar for worship.

Why You Should Be a “Stephen Minister”

From Lorrie Patillo’s Temple Talk, August 20, 2023

When I was first approached to become a Stephen Minister, my first thoughts were: I’m not qualified to do this, I am not an empathetic person, I don’t like to talk a lot, I’m more of a listener and thinker. I prayed on it, procrastinated a little then decided “What do I have to lose here?” I was a member of this church and I showed up nearly every Sunday but it didn’t go too much further than that. I really didn’t know anyone – and when I say didn’t know anyone, I mean in depth.

Fast forward to six months later. I got to know some really great people through the Stephen Ministry training program. Caring individuals who will listen to you and support you. Many of these same people are still active Stephen Ministers today – nearly nine years later. Being a Stephen Minister brought me closer to God; I placed my own cares and concerns in His hands and asked Him to show me the way. I was reunited with my Bible and studying it. I pray every day now. I have a new understanding of people and have come to realize that no one has a perfect life no matter how good their game face is.

If there is any doubt in your mind as to what a Stephen Minister is and what we can do for you then listen some more – every Stephen Minister is your next-door neighbor, a mother or father, wife or husband, a daughter, a son – just like you. Every Stephen Minister goes through tough times just like you. But.... when you need that someone to just listen to you, and sit with you, and say nothing – if that is what you need, then that is your Stephen Minister. We all have different ways of communicating; some of us don’t like to let people in and don’t want to share our troubles for fear of embarrassment, for fear that everyone will know our business or just because we were brought up to keep our emotions in check – never let anyone see our vulnerable side. I have learned as one very small part of this wonderful group of people that anything and everything is ok because instead of telling you what we will do for you, I am going to tell you what we won’t do:

We won’t judge you.

We won’t talk about you to anyone else – not even our closest family members

We won’t tell you what to do

We won’t try to ‘fix’ you

We won’t tell you to get over it and move on with your life

We won’t talk over you

We won’t stop you when you tell us the same thing over and over again

We won’t set a timeline for being ‘healed’

We won’t think you are weak, or helpless or needy or a hopeless cause

We will be there for you as long as you need us; until such time that we both agree that you are ready to let go of us and live your life to the fullest.

That’s a STEPHEN MINISTER

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Greetings Ladies of Trinity,

What a hot summer it's been! I'm hopeful the rain will be coming soon, please keep praying.

As you know, I have been leading our Women's Ministry these past few years and it is with mixed emotions that I have made the decision to step back from it. I have enjoyed serving in this ministry. I have been blessed, supported, encouraged, and loved by all of you and for that I am truly grateful.

The reason for this decision is that we simply have a full plate right now. In addition to the ministries I still serve in, we have a new grandbaby on the way in a few weeks, a house that needs a lot of attention, as well as other projects. With so much going on, I think it's a great time to step back and let someone else come in and take leadership. This ministry has so much potential, and anyone of you ladies would bring something special to it because I know how special each and every one of you are.

Ladies, again, it has been a genuine honor, blessing and privilege to serve you as leader of our Women's Ministry. May our good and gracious God continue to pour His blessings upon us each day, and may we continue to seek His face and His wisdom with a thankful heart.

In His Love, Claudia Smith

What does a Women's Ministry Leader do at Trinity?

The Women's Ministry leader at Trinity primarily acts as a facilitator—someone that is able to connect people to a ministry that allows them to fulfill a need to serve and connect to Jesus' servant heart. Trinity has many ministries that are important and fulfilling. Some examples are: Women's Service Teams, VBS, Meals following a funeral, Life Team, Altar Guild, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Trinity Takeaways, and the list goes on!

One of the ways a Women's Ministry Leader facilitates is by bringing the ladies together to consider projects that benefit our members, our community, and our spiritual beings. The Leader sets dates for Gatherings, (monthly, quarterly, or as needed) so that the Women of Trinity can address needs, issues or ministries that we currently participate in or hope to participate in the future.

Another way is through sharing information about what is happening at the Gatherings and progress on current and future projects in a monthly newsletter article. Keeping communication open and drawing on our members for feedback is how we stay "plugged in."

The leader's goal is to connect women in the congregation in service to our church, community and fellow women. We want to encourage, support and build up our ladies to help to bring God's love to our members and our community. What new ideas and opportunities to serve are outside our church walls?

Do you have an interest in serving as a leader? Trinity has many loving and spirit-filled women of God and we need you! With this vacancy in mind, the September Gathering date of Sept. 10th has been rescheduled for October 15th. We pray that by October a new leader will answer the call to lead women's ministry at Trinity! For more information or to ask questions, please contact Claudia Smith (830-388-0370) or Angie Daniels in the church office, (830-833-4771.)

October 14—Eclipse Parking—Hosted by Trinity Tribe in the church’s parking lot. On Saturday, October 14th the Hill Country is the perfect spot to enjoy the eclipse of the sun that you’ve been hearing so much about on the news. With that in mind, Trinity Tribe will sell parking spaces in Trinity’s parking lot for \$20 per vehicle. Funds raised will benefit the Youth Campers and their efforts to raise funds for Summer Camp in 2023.

October 21st—Trinity Tribe Rummage, Craft, and Community Yard Sale at Trinity’s Parking Lot

This fundraiser, hosted by Youth Ministry, will raise funds for upcoming youth projects and camp. For more information on how everyone can sell their crafts, rummage, and or yard sale items, etc... talk with Ashley Finch, Youth Council Member and Coordinator of this event.



Set up begins at 7am that morning, with sales beginning at 8am. By 6pm that day, each vendor must clean up their site—no leftovers or trash allowed.

Reserve your space with a \$20 fee! For more information contact Ashley Finch.

Trinity's Sunday School 2023

Children's Sunday School Sunday School Classes for age 3 years through High School take place from 11a.m. till Noon. We gather for opening in the Youth Room (west side of the fellowship hall) before moving to individual classrooms. For more information or to volunteer, contact Ashley Finch †

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SEPTEMBER 2023 EVENTS CALENDAR--TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO

Pastor: Rev. David Mayer—In Person Worship: 9:30 AM, (*Also Live streamed on Facebook at 9:30a.m.*)

Fellowship Time in the hall after worship services with Sunday School for All Ages beginning at 11:00 AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Breakfast at Trinity! Hosted by Hannah & Deborah Teams, 8:30- 9:15am	4 <i>Office closed for Labor Day holiday</i>	5	6	7 Mom's Bible Study Thursdays from 8- 10am 7-9pm Movie Nite	8	9
10 --Communion 11am Parents of Confirmation Students meet with the Pastor	11	12 6pm Barnabas Time for Stephen Minister, fellowship hall	13	14 Mom's Bible Study Thursdays from 8- 10am 7-9pm Movie Nite	15	16 Confirmation Class, TBD
17	18 Newsletter articles due TODAY!	19 Men's Group, 6:30pm TBA	20 6:00pm Council of Ministries meeting	21 Mom's Bible Study Thursdays from 8- 10am 7-9pm Movie Nite	22	23
24—Communion	25	26	27	28 Mom's Bible Study Thursdays from 8- 10am 7-9pm Movie Nite	29	30 TBA Council Retreat, here

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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 July 12, 2023 Meeting

President Jerry Gass called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Council members present were Sally Anderson, Medora Beckmann, Norman Eubank, Jerry Gass, Pastor David Mayer, Sheri Riley, Karen Steiger, Hal Switzer, and Karen Wagner.

Briana Grenshaw was a guest. She was introduced by Hal to present a request that she be able to set up a coffee/food truck on our back parking lot. She is flexible and wants to accommodate Trinity's schedule. Hal made a motion to accept Briana Crenshaw's proposal. Sheri Riley seconded the motion, and the Council approved the motion, with one opposing vote. Karen W suggested that Briana present us with a written rental contract for one year that Council will approve upon review.

Another request, totally separate, was made to provide our parking lot as a drop-off point for an 18-wheeler food co-op delivery. The Council felt there were other places that could accommodate such a request better, so it was denied.

Pastor David led everyone in a prayer for the Holy Spirit's blessing and guidance in decision-making as we proceeded with the business at hand striving to do God's will. There were no corrections to the Minutes of the June 14, 2023, Council meeting.

The Action Items were discussed. Security mirrors and Pastor's new door will be installed after VBS. The Polka Worship Service will be held on Sunday, October 15th, which is a non-Communion Sunday. Hal made a motion to accept the Minutes, and Karen W. seconded the motion. The Council members voted to approve the motion.

Sheri gave the Financial Report for June 2023, and Medora gave the Treasurer's Report as of June 23, 2023.

Pastor David submitted his report and discussed it in detail. He will be on vacation from August 30th – September 3. Pastor Bill Moberly of ALWM will preach on Potluck Sunday, July 30th. A Goodwill offering will be taken for him at the back of the church. Any additional contribution to his organization can be discussed at our August Council meeting. Pastor announced that the National LCMC Annual Gathering in St Louis will be held in early October. We need delegates to represent our congregation. The Harvest Workers NT Course will start in the beginning of September. After it is underway, Pastor will consider doing the other Bible Study that people had signed up for.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

--Youth & Education – In Ashley's absence there was no report. Camp Eagle in Rocksprings was well attended, and the congregation was able to view the video of the campers' experiences during Sunday's Worship Service.

--Stewardship – Sally sent around several Thank you notes. ILT, Blanco County Child & Family Protection Advocacy, Adult & Teen Challenge, CRC, Wycliffe Bible Translators, and Ethnomedia.

--Evangelism – Karen W reported that the Potluck Lunch will be July 30th, and Breakfast will be served August 6th. She will contact Sharon Wolbrecht to lead the Women's Group that is responsible for that event.

--Worship – There was no report submitted.

--Property – Norman submitted his report. Because of Blanco's severe water restrictions, Trinity's irrigation system has been turned off. Norman reported that Pastor's office renovation is still a work in progress. The church's outdoor sign is also still a work in progress. Pastor David complimented Norman and his crew for the fine work they are doing to update his office.

Karen W made a motion to accept the Committee Reports and Medora seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the Council members present.

Old Business

– The Communion Assistants Schedule was updated

- After VBS is over the Directory Pictures will be sent to Trinity and the Directory App will be introduced to the congregation.
- The Membership Committee is set to meet tomorrow, July 13th.
- Jerry gave a summary of the Thrivent Investments pertaining to the Building Funds (5) and the General Funds (5). The movement of these monies will take place on or near the 5th day of each month until all invested monies are transferred properly...in a one-year period.

New Business

- Jerry led a discussion on how the Benevolence Factors for the quarter were calculated. Norman made a motion to accept the factors as presented, Hal seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion.
- Discussion concerning the 2030 Church Revitalization was deferred to The Council Retreat. It was decided that we should hold our Retreat on Saturday, September 30.

Sheri made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Medora seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm with everyone reciting The Lord's Prayer.

SEPTEMBER 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*

	Sept. 3	Sept. 10	Sept. 17	Sept. 24
Altar Flowers	<i>Open</i>	<i>Open</i>	Stan & Karen Steiger	Wayne & Martha Gosnell
Usher Team	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley
Acolyte	<i>TBA</i>	Briley Thomas	Kacen Haas	Creed Finch
Lector	Keith Morgenroth	Ron Bigler	Roland Pfeiffer	Mary Jo Pfeiffer
Communion Assistants	<i>No communion</i>	Jerry Gass	<i>No communion</i>	Ashley Finch
Greeters	<i>TBA</i>	Roland & Mary Jo Pfeiffer	Ronnie & Karen Wagner	Bonnie Triesch & Pam Nabers
Altar Guild	In September:	Arlene Hamlin, Lacy Lukich, Sharon Wolbrecht, Cindy Hawkins		

BREAKFAST AT TRINITY—First Sunday of September!

The Hannah & Deborah Women's Service Teams will host breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 3rd from 8:30-9:15a.m. in the fellowship hall. The ladies provide homemade breakfast casseroles, fruit, pastries, juice, and coffee before worship begins at 9:30a.m.

Make your plans to join us!



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



Mission: More Than a Middle Name

As an association of congregations, I love our name: Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. It brilliantly captures our aspirations: a network of autonomous congregations united by a Lutheran theological foundation and a common commitment to a greater mission for Jesus Christ in the world!

We recognize four core values that shape our association. We are 1) Free in Christ, 2) Accountable to One Another, 3) Rooted in the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions, and 4) Working Together to Fulfill Christ Great Commission to Go and Make Disciples of All Nations. While all values are important, it is the fourth one that defines our purpose... our mission.

Yet as I survey our congregations, this fourth value is far less obvious. If you were to ask someone to observe our member congregations and describe our association based on what our churches are doing and how they are spending time and resources, I doubt that our mission to go make disciples of all nations would be noted as our clear and obvious purpose.

This realization has grown clearer to me in recent months. I came across an LCMC congregation's website that publicly claims the first three of our association's core values while completely omitting any mention of the fourth! Additionally, during a meeting of LCMC pastors, a colleague stated that a Lutheran understanding of mission is simply the proper proclamation of the gospel and administration of the sacraments. I respectfully challenged this notion, expressing that although fulfilling the Great Commission includes proper gospel proclamation and sacrament administration, these actions alone do not equate to going and making disciples of all nations. We need to take Jesus' words in Matthew 28 seriously.

I lament that, in an association that professes the centrality of our mission for Christ in its name and beautifully articulates how we are working together to carryout Christ's Great Commission as the fulfillment of this mission, mission may be little more than a middle name to us!

So, I ask you, pastors and churches: what does your church's mission look like? If an unbiased observer were to spend time within your community to draft a report describing who you are as a church and what your church is about, what would it say? How is your church working together to fulfill Christ's Great Commission to go make disciples of all nations?

This, my friends, is our mission... our purpose. I pray that we don't forget it, dumb it down, or drop it off the list. Mission is more than our middle name!

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). 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.

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