

Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco, Texas

Where:

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

Ministers All People of Trinity
Pastor David Mayer

Media Director Sheila Mercer
Music Director Leta Garcia
Secretary Angie Daniels

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May Events at Trinity:

May 3—Sunday Brunch Served at Trinity!

10:15-11 AM served in the fellowship hall, Women's Service Teams Ruth & Hannah will host

May 4—Joe Garcia Memorial Golf Tournament
No Harvest Workers today

May 5—Stephen Ministry Barnabas Time, 5pm, FH

All Thursdays in May:
Pastor's Bible Study, FH at 11am

May 9—Ecumenical Men's Breakfast, 8am here at Trinity hosted by the Men's Group, CMOB

May 10—Happy Mother's Day!

Baby Bottle Boomerang begins Mother's Day, May 10th and ends Father's Day, June 21st. Trinity's Life Team invites everyone to pick up a baby bottle from the narthex and return it filled with donations for the Share Center and their work promoting life in our local community.

May 11—Harvest Workers Bible Study, FH at 10am and 6pm
Prayer Shawl Gathering, 11:30am, FH

May 13—Ladies Game Day, Noon-2pm, here
Council of Ministries Meeting, 6pm

May 18—Harvest Workers Bible Study, FH at 10am and 6pm

May 19—Women's Group at Barb Geistfeld's, 6pm
Men's Group at Llano Baumgartner's, 6pm

May 24—Pentecost Sunday & Memorial Day
observed at both services

May 25—Church Office closed for Memorial Day
No Harvest Workers today

May 31—5th Sunday Potluck Brunch from 10:15-11AM in the fellowship hall
Women's Quarterly Gathering & Lunch, 12:15 pm, FH

Men and Women of Valor For Jesus

Through Jesus Christ, by his death on the cross and his resurrection, our Heavenly Father made us a new creation by the power of the Holy Spirit. We make the following choices, making ourselves available to God as willing sons and daughters, so that God's Word will bear fruit in our lives and in the world:

We choose to live out of who God really is
God is good, is love, is holy, is merciful, and is all powerful. Jesus is the exact image and example of God's nature and heart. Our goal is to learn who God really is and live out of this knowledge in confidence, joy and peace.

We choose to worship

Thanksgiving and praise and enjoying God's presence is the air we breathe. Worship puts the focus on God and not us. Worship comes from relationship; loving God from the heart. Relationship and intimacy is where we draw our power and peace. God is the most interesting person there is and is worth drawing near to. We want to be filled with the Holy Spirit as a continual reality.

We choose to be impressed by God's power and love

We will not glorify the enemy by being impressed by him, or by our circumstances, or by our problems. We will pray, proclaim and live out of the goodness, provision, power and abundance of heaven, so that the Kingdom of God comes to earth in us and through us. This does not exempt us from suffering; in fact, suffering for Christ is promised and is a sign that our faith and relationship is genuine. God's power and love show up in our weakness and need.

We choose to live out of our identity as sons and daughters of the Most High

Sons and daughters bear a family resemblance and embrace the family honor and work. We are partners with God as His children. We are co-heirs with Jesus. We live out of who we are, our identity. Our adoption into God's family gives us

a heart for those who are still orphans, estranged from the Heavenly Father. Because of Jesus, we are known by God and have significance and a high calling.

We choose to be responsible for our own growth

We expect to be servants and leaders who help others grow into maturity, as we also receive help and encouragement from others. We take responsibility to pursue God's truth, gifts and power, through the Word, through the community of faith, and by welcoming the Holy Spirit into all of our life.

We choose to be trained champions

We are looking for adventure, not escape. Trouble and hardship are where we see the power and majesty of God show up in our weakness. This grows us in dependence on God. It builds character and endurance. This is what we want. We want this fight: to build the church and defeat the enemy. We choose to deny myself, die to myself, and follow Jesus. We want to become like our teacher.

We choose to be a joyful community

We are friends and family in Jesus Christ. We joyfully belong to each other. We will love and forgive each other over and over, and will practice the patience and forbearance we ourselves need. We will hold each other accountable and encourage and lift each other up in grace and kindness.

We choose to point people to Jesus

We follow Jesus and we make followers of Jesus. This is our highest mission in this life that flows out of our love from God and for our neighbor. We embrace Jesus' mission to save the whole world. We are the aroma of Jesus Christ. We are God's plan A and there is no plan B. It is our privilege and responsibility, our spiritual food, to do the work of God to bless people, to love people as God has loved us.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Dave

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Altar Guild May News—The Altar Team on duty for the month of May will be Sandy Switzer, Karen Steiger, Sally Anderson, and Dianna Maddox. Many thanks to Jan Gass, Martha Gosnell, and Christine Bushong for preparing the altar for worship during the busy month of April, which included Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter! If you are interested in serving Trinity as a member of the Altar Guild, please contact Sharon Cox, at 210-385-2532. Trinity's Altar Guild has groups of 3-4 members who serve, in a rotating schedule, during the year.

Two Opportunities in May to Enjoy Sunday Brunch at Trinity!

May 3rd will be a **Sunday Brunch**, served in the fellowship hall from 10:15-11:00 AM, hosted by the Women's Service Teams Ruth & Hannah.

May 31st will be a **5th Sunday Potluck Brunch**, served in the fellowship hall from 10:15-11 AM. Everyone is invited to bring food for this potluck brunch.

The Church Council hopes to encourage fellowship with members and friends between the traditional service at 9 AM and the contemporary service at 11:15 AM. **NOTE:** Sunday School will not meet on Sundays when we have a brunch, so that everyone can enjoy fellowship. Sunday School will meet the following Sunday, so as to not miss class for 2 weeks.

New Address...for Ruby Duecker

Ruby sent a short letter to let Trinity know she has moved to an assisted living facility in Sugarland Texas. Her new address is 7001 Riverside Drive, Room 248, Sugar Land, TX 77479

VBS 2026 - June 8-12 at Trinity

Yes! The dates are set, student registration is full, and we are excited for High Seas Vacation Bible School to begin. Many volunteers, helpers, and students will become closer to God by participating in this spirit-filled week!

Student registration filled quickly and there is a waiting list, but volunteers are always needed! Volunteer forms are posted in the Narthex and available on the website. For more information contact VBS Coordinator, Alexis Pawelek or email the church office at trinityblanco@gvtc.com

Women's Ministry News:

Women's Group will meet Tuesday, May 19th at Barb Geistfeld's home for food, fellowship, and devotions. Barb is co-hosting the dinner with Jan Gass. (Contact Barb at 830-388-8640 for more information.)

Women's Quarterly Meeting will be held following the late service May 31 at 12:15 pm. Light refreshments will be served as this is a Potluck Brunch Sunday.

We hope all the ladies of Trinity can join us! Mary Jo Pfeiffer, Women's Ministry Leader

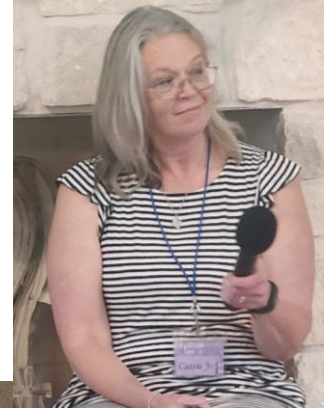
Report From the 2026 WOW WOMEN'S RETREAT

WOW (Women of the Word) had a wow weekend April 24-26 at Trinity women's 9th Retreat. 15 members of Trinity joined in Christian fellowship with 10 other ladies to build relationships, learn from Scripture, and worship our Heavenly Father through word and song.

The House of God Retreat was held in a beautiful rental property home in the Sabinal/Concan area. We were able to share delicious meals brought by the attendees in a lovely area surrounding a pool and hot tub. The facilities were enjoyed by many.

Cassie Schermbeck was our presenter with lots of participation for the theme, The House of God. Cassie is the Director of Faith Development at Our Father Lutheran Church in Centennial, CO.

We thank each lady for the participation, meals, treats, gifts, and/or preparation that was provided. We would especially like to thank Judge Brett Bray and his wife Linda, as well as Josh and Kelly Bucy for their generous cash donation which blessed our gathering. Thanks also to Charles Riley for cooking the delicious bbq brisket we all enjoyed.



Men's Group met April 21st at the home of Bob Perez for delicious food, fellowship, and devotions. All men are invited to attend the May 19th Men's Group, at the home of Llano Baumgartner, for food, fellowship, and Bible Study. To find out more, contact Roland Pfeiffer at 210-213-7614



CMOB Serves at the Co-APT Wellness Fair

Trinity's Men's Group, the Christian Men of Blanco (CMOB), laid out a fare of healthy hot dogs for attendees at the 2026 Wellness Fair at Blanco High School on April 30th. The CMOB supports this event each year and provides hot dogs with all the fixin's and bags of chips at no cost as a service to the community.

The Blanco Coalition on Awareness, Prevention, and Treatment of Substance Abuse, (Co-APT) hosts the fair at BHS to raise awareness of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs to youth a families through the development and utilization of resources dedicated to saving lives through prevention, intervention, and treatment.

MAY 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 (830) 833-4771.

	May 3	May 10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	May 17	May 24	May 31
Altar Flowers	Sherri Wicker	<i>open</i>	<i>open</i>	Barb Geistfeld	Mike & Sally Anderson
Greeters	Barb Geistfeld	Tanya Mayer	Norman & Barbara Eubank	<i>Open</i>	Trinity Youth
Worship Assistant	Jim Clifton	Barb Geistfeld	Barb Geistfeld	Stan Steiger	Stan Steiger
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	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley
Lectors	Keith Morgenroth	Mary Jo Pfeiffer	Ron Bigler	Ken McWilliams	Arlene Hamlin
Communion Assistants	<i>No communion</i>	Wayne Gosnell (both)	<i>No Communion</i>	Ron Bigler (1 st) Ashley Finch (2 nd)	<i>No Communion</i>
Altar Guild	In May:	Sandy Switzer, Sally Anderson, Karen Steiger, Dianna Maddox			



VERY huge thank you to all my brothers and sisters at Trinity who made Jim's memorial a celebration of Life to always remember. I love you ALL!!!

Barb Geistfeld

I am so grateful to the members of our church for the delicious meal and the love you shared with my family after Doug's service. Your love and kindness brought me comfort and reminded me I am surrounded by a caring church family. Love and blessings to each of you.

Lydia Bledsoe

MEMORIALS RECEIVED IN APRIL

In Memory of Jim Geistfeld

By Stan & Karen Steiger

In Memory of Douglas Bledsoe to the Youth Camping Fund

*By Marie Anna Lindeman
 Roland & Mary Jo Pfeiffer
 Connie Russell*

News From Your Council of Ministries

Jerry Gass—President
Hal Switzer—Vice-President
Karen Steiger—Secretary
Keith Morgenroth—Treasurer
Sheri Riley—Financial Secretary
Wayne Gosnell—Stewardship

Travis Kersten—Worship
Karen Wagner—Fellowship
Sally Anderson—Evangelism
Norman Eubank—Property
Ashley Finch—Education/Youth

COUNCIL NOTES—from the March 11, 2026 Meeting

President Jerry Gass called the meeting to order at 6:47pm immediately following the Lenten service. Council members present were Norman Eubank, Jerry Gass, Travis Kersten, Pastor David Mayer, Keith Morgenroth, Sheri Riley, Hal Switzer, and Karen Wagner. Pastor David opened the meeting with a prayer. A big thank you to Sheri for taking the Minutes for this meeting!

There were no corrections to the Minutes of the February 11th Council meeting. The Action Items were discussed, with some still needing attention.

- 1) Pastor David will look into providing a folder of information to give visiting non-members on how to become members of TLC.
- 2) Pastor David will contact the carillon company because they are not working.
- 3) Travis will meet with Leta (choir singing more often & special live music), Janice (using the organ capabilities to the fullest) and Sheila (pictures taken at special events to use on webpage, slideshow, etc.).

Travis made a motion to accept the Minutes as updated, Keith seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion.

Sheri gave the Financial Report through February 2026. Keith gave the Treasurer's Report as of February 28, 2026. TLC is in very good shape. Hal reported that the security training has been increased to 2 times/month. A storage shed at the shooting range is needed. The money for this purchase will be taken out of the security budget. Pastor David submitted his report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Youth and Education – In Ashley's absence Karen reported that the Youth will serve a Pancake Breakfast on Palm Sunday, March 29th between the first & second services. Saturday, March 21st is the date to clean out the storage shed.

Stewardship – In Wayne's absence, Jerry distributed his Thank You Communications handout.

Evangelism – No report was submitted. Travis announced that Sally will be working with Cory Myers on TLC's outdoor sign.

Fellowship – Karen reported that the ladies were going to assemble Easter eggs for an Easter egg hunt for the children on Easter Sunday. The Women's Group is set up to celebrate St. Patrick's Day at their monthly gathering here at the Fellowship Hall next Tuesday, March 17th.

Worship – Travis reported that all his groups are doing well. Bonnie Triesch needs help to move the Christmas tree from behind the accordion doors in the Narthex to the storage shed so she can get to the Easter supplies.

Property – Norman submitted his report. The exterior Nursery windows have been secured with bullet resistant plastic. A dumpster will be coming onsite on March 18th or 19th in preparation for the shed clean out on March 21st.

The Council members acknowledged that the committee reports were given and accepted.

Old Business –

The Communion Assistants schedule was updated as follows:

- April 12 Sally Anderson (1st) Travis Kersten (2nd)/ April 26 Keith Morganroth, both services
May 10, Mother's Day, Wayne Gosnell, both services
May 24, Memorial Day Weekend/Pentecost, Ron Bigler (1st) Ashley Finch (2nd)

Continued on page 6

New Business –

Travis made a motion to say “no” to the film crew who wanted to use TLC’s back parking lot and fellowship hall. Keith seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion.

Upcoming events include Women’s Group fellowship on Tuesday, March 17th at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall and Men’s Group fellowship on Tuesday, March 17th at 6:00pm at Hal Switzer’s house. Thursday, April 30th, CMOB will serve hot dogs for the Youth at the BHS cafeteria.

Travis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Keith seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm with everyone present reciting The Lord’s Prayer.

Life Thoughts

For many years, the compassionate folks here at Trinity Lutheran Church have supported the SHARE Center in Spring Branch/Bulverde. In their own words, “The Sexual Health & Reproductive Education (SHARE) Center’s mission is to Dignify the family, Defend all life, and Disciple those we encounter. We educate, support and empower women, men, and teens facing unplanned pregnancies or other sexual health-related issues to make life-affirming choices for themselves and their pregnancies, including parenting and adoption. Your donations allow us to provide professional medical care, prenatal & parenting classes, and material assistance at no cost to our clients.”

The services provided go beyond simply confirming a pregnancy with tests and ultrasounds. Bible studies, client education, material resources such as baby clothing, diapers, wipes, etc., at the Boutique, referrals for additional assistance, diagnosis and treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), and personal, long-term interactions with the patients/clients are routine events here. The Gospel of Jesus is behind and within everything they do.

Currently, they are located at 17080 Hwy 46 W, Ste. 113, Spring Branch, in the Faithville Shopping Center. God has blessed their ministry, and they have expanded their current facilities in the past. They are now prayerfully investigating buying a larger facility that can become a permanent location for future expansion and even more ministry opportunities. Prayers are very much needed!

At the latest Liaison Luncheon, Jan Gass and Barb Geistfeld, Trinity’s representatives, learned that the number of total services rendered in the first quarter of 2026 compared to the first quarter of 2025 is up 59%!! We also learned that the needs are still very great. Abortion pills are being illegally shipped into Texas and many people who call the Center do not come in after discovering that they do not counsel for nor support abortion. Our financial support and especially our prayers for honoring the sanctity of a God-given life are as important as ever. New ways to reach the public, new ways to minister to people in the first few seconds of an encounter, and continual advertising to reach those with problems are always being investigated and implemented.

Our Annual Baby Bottle Boomerang is coming up from Mother’s Day to Father’s Day. Please give as generously as you can to help local individuals and families choose life. Above all, pray to the Lord of Life that we may all be witnesses to the sanctity of the wonderful gift of Life that God has bestowed on each of us.

Barb Geistfeld, Life Team Leader

Baby Bottle Fundraiser Begins May 10th!

SHARE baby bottles may be used for your donations by picking one up from the display in the narthex, filling it with spare change, cash, or checks and returning it to the church office. A large baby bottle will also be on the table for anyone that would like to include weekly donations for the SHARE Center. Informational brochures tell more about what services the center provides to young families.

After all bottles are returned to the church after Father’s Day, June 21, they will be returned to the SHARE Center and utilized for their many outreach services detailed above.



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MAY 2026 EVENTS CALENDAR--TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO

Pastor David Mayer--Worship: 9:00 AM, Sunday School: 10:15 AM, Contemporary Worship: 11:15 AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 9am Traditional Worship Brunch, 10:15-11 AM <i>No Sunday School</i> 11:15am Contemporary Worship	4 <i>No Harvest Workers today</i> <i>Joe Garcia</i> <i>Memorial Golf Tourney</i>	5 6pm Stephen Ministry Barnabas Time, FH	6	7 11am Bible Study with Pastor	8	9 8am-Men's Ecumenical Breakfast, hosted by CMOB, here in the fellowship hall
10 Communion Happy Mother's Day! 9am Traditional Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary Worship	11 10am & 6pm Harvest Workers Study, here 11:30am Prayer Shawl Gathering, FH	12	13 Noon Ladies Game Day, here 6:00pm Council of Ministries meeting	14 11am Bible Study with Pastor	15	16
17 9am Traditional Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary Worship	18 10am & 6pm Harvest Workers Study, here	19 6pm Women's Group meets at Barb Geistfeld's home 6:00pm Men's Group meets at Llano Baumgartner's home	20 Newsletter articles due TODAY!	21 11am Bible Study with Pastor	22	23
24—Communion 9am Traditional Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary Worship	25 Memorial Day <i>Church Office closed for Memorial Day holiday</i>	26	27	28 11am Bible Study with Pastor	29	30
31— 9am Traditional Worship 5th Sunday Potluck Brunch at 10:15-11 AM 11:15am Contemporary Worship 12:15pm Women's Gathering						



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



Who's Sitting in Your Pews?

Years ago, a pastor friend of mine invited me to consult with his congregation on vision and long-range planning. During this process, two younger men stepped up, full of energy and new ideas. Both felt called to do more than fill a pew. They were eager to help lead worship, give the announcements, and even willing to preach on occasion to mix things up. Here were two men already in the church who were ready to grow and go!

I could not have been more thrilled. What an opportunity my friend had to invest in and mentor these two young men! And, in my mind, one or both might end up being a pastor someday. But my friend was not thrilled. He didn't doubt the men or their gifts. Instead, he confessed that he couldn't get past wondering what people would think. He was insecure about his own role. He said, "If these young men are leading and preaching, people will start to wonder what we are paying the pastor for."

I have never forgotten that conversation. My friend wasn't a bad pastor; he was a faithful shepherd. But his confession made me think about all the fears pastors have that stifle leadership development: the over-functioning pastor who artificially limits how much ministry laity can do; the large-church pastor who keeps staff from attending LCMC retreats or gatherings to prevent them from connecting with others which could lead them to be called away; or the driven pastor who only develops his or her own people to serve only that congregation.

I understand these fears because in my years of pastoring congregations, I confess that I, too, was focused on raising up leaders for my own local congregation only. I did not have a Kingdom mindset. Like many driven pastors, I developed tunnel vision focusing on my church's mission, and lost sight of a broader Kingdom mission. Pastors need the prayer, support, and encouragement of congregations to equip leaders for Kingdom mission.

Leadership development is not just a pastor problem to solve. It is something the whole congregation is called into. In 2 Timothy 1:9, Paul reminds Timothy that *God has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.* God's calling is not ours to dispense or withhold. The Lord of the harvest calls, equips, and sends. Our job is never to limit the call but to pray for it, look for it, see it, bless it, and help it grow.

So, who is sitting in your pews? Who is God already calling, already gifting, already nudging toward greater service in his Kingdom? And what fears might be keeping your congregation or pastor from seeing them, blessing them, and sending them? What a joy it is to equip and release leaders for mission and ministry in God's Kingdom!

Our 2026 LCMC Texas District Annual Gathering is July 24-25 in New Braunfels, and our theme is CALLED, based on 2 Timothy 1:9. Register by June 30 for early-bird pricing at www.lcmctexas.org/annual-gathering. 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. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org. © 2026 Bryce J. Formwalt, All Rights Reserved. Reprinted with permission. May 2026