



Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco, Texas

Where:

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

Ministers All People of Trinity
Pastor David Mayer

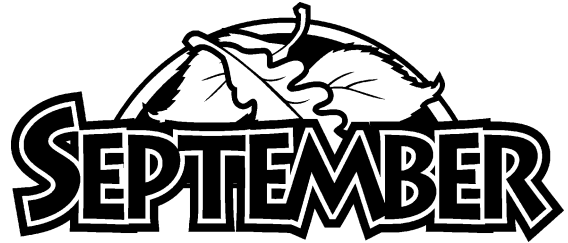
Music Minister Leta Garcia
Media Minister Sheila Mercer
Parish Administrator Angie Daniels

How to Contact Trinity:

- 703 Main Street,
P.O. Box 487
Blanco 78606
- Church Office: 830-833-4771
- Email: trinityblanco@gvvc.com
- Website: www.trinityofblanco.com

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

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
Trinity Lutheran Church – Blanco, TX
L ❤️ VE US IN PERSON



Events at Trinity:

Sept. 1— Stephen Ministry Barnabas Time, 5pm

All Thursdays in Sept—Pastor's Bible Study,
11am, Fellowship Hall

Sept. 7— Labor Day—Church Office Closed
No Harvest Workers today
Kitchen reserved by S. Mercer, 9am-1pm

Sept. 9—Ladies Game Day, Noon-2pm, FH

Sept. 13—Council Strategic Planning Meeting,
fellowship hall, 12:30-4pm

Sept. 14, 21, & 28—Harvest Workers Study, 10am
& 6pm, fellowship hall

Sept. 15—Women's & Men's Groups meet
At 6:00pm for fellowship, a meal, and Bible
study/devotions

-Women's Group, Call/text Mary Jo Pfeiffer,
210-213-7615, for more info

-Men's Group, at Kevin Hawkins' home,
Call/text Roland Pfeiffer, 210-213-7614, for
more info

Sept. 16—Council Meeting, 6pm, FH

Sept. 17—Hall Reserved by American Legion for
Boys & Girls State Banquet, 6-9pm,
fellowship hall

Sept. 18—Scrapbooking & Crafts with Doris Perez,
10:00am, fellowship hall

Sept. 19—Hall Reserved by Clara Gourley for a
Celebration of Life for Buzz Milam, 2-4pm

Sept. 23—Hall Reserved for Waldenstrom
Lymphoma Support Group meeting, 10am-
Noon

Sept. 26—Hall Reserved by Sally Anderson

My high school buddy and I hatched a harebrained scheme for an after graduation adventure. Tedd and I had heard that travelers were making the trip between Europe and India on an overland route. The journey included travel through countries such as Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Turkey and then into Europe through Greece and into Italy by ferry.

We were rather naive, but I'm sure we knew that many who traveled these countries did so to take advantage of the drugs that were readily available. So what? That did not mean that we had to. These things did not interest us. What we were looking for was "adventure".

There were two parties we had to convince: our parents and our mission boards. Our parents, for permission and blessing, and our mission boards for the money. The mission boards were going to pay our airfare for us to fly to the States so that we could attend college. Why not give us the money and let us make our way overland on our own?

To this day the biggest mystery that remains unsolved is why our parents let us go in the first place (I was 17 years old). A close second was why our mission boards thought we could wisely handle the finances to travel on our own. When I think of my own "kids" I think, no way! Too young! Maybe when they are 30 or 35! Okay, I'm exaggerating.

Tedd and I did succeed in fulfilling this dream. With backpacks we made our way across India by train. We walked across the border into Pakistan. We traveled across Pakistan and came to a town near the border of Pakistan and Afghanistan by bus. It was the famed Khyber Pass. We thought it was the border but found out that we had to take a taxi another ten miles.

While we were waiting we were ushered into a shop. That seemed like a safer place to be. This was a tribal area and many were carrying rifles. Back then in 1975 there was no sense of danger but we didn't need to get in anyone's way.

The shop keeper proceeded to offer us a big block of green stuff which we did not recognize. But we did understand the word, "hashish." Since we were not interested, he showed us some white powder. No, thank you. Next came the semi-precious stones. Not that either. Finally, he showed us a 22 caliber weapon in the shape of a pen. Tedd and I realized that this was not exactly the healthy environment the doctor ordered, so we went looking for our taxi.

What we found was a 1950s vintage American car: big, fat and with lots of room. We were just about to find a seat inside when someone stopped us. They pointed up to the roof with a stout luggage rack. Yes, that was where we infidels were to sit, with four others. The trunk was stacked high with luggage, held in by the open trunk lid that was tied down by rope. Inside the cabin the 10 or more passengers fit snugly. I was happy. At least we didn't have to contend with those two goats that were also squeezed inside. And then we started to descend the winding road toward Afghanistan. Imagine, if you will, going down the road from Pike's Peak, sitting on top of that thing. If prayer had slipped a little into neutral, we definitely shifted it back into gear! "May this man steer carefully and may his brakes continue to work!" Never were we so grateful to be able to walk on our feet again!

I don't have room to finish the story here. But I tell you this experience thinking of the young "kids" of Trinity Lutheran who are no longer kids; the ones who have been sent

off to college or some other endeavor on their way to adulthood. We weren't sure we wanted them to go off and yet we know they can't stay home. They must grow up. I'm also keeping in mind the younger ones still at home and how we raise them to be faithful as well as daring enough to take good risks.

The words from Proverbs 22:6 come to mind: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." They must find their way and we hope we have laid a solid foundation. I think of the words from Genesis and elsewhere: "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother..." A young man and a young woman must find themselves. They need to mature in order to be ready for the responsibilities of an adult: marriage and other things. I am reminded of the words of our Lord who said in Matthew 25:21: "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things." Our children have accomplished successfully the few things. Now we must send them forth to try their hand at the bigger things of life. And finally I hear the counsel of the Apostle Paul in

Ephesians 4:13, 14: "until all of us come...to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children..."

We may not all be crazy enough to send our son or daughter around the world to strange places. However, we do send them, with prayer and promised support, into the world so that they might discover what it is God has in store for them and what He wants them to become. It seems that too often congregations forget about our young adults gone off to college, training or work. How can we show they are still important to us?

"Go, our not so young ones. Go with our blessings and continue to trust in God. Jesus is the rock of your salvation."

"Grow, our young ones still at home, build your life on the unshakeable foundation of Jesus Christ our Lord."

"Pray, church. Invest. Remember, church. We are not sending our young adults out of our life, just out into the world. How can we show that we love them?"

Pastor Dave

Baptisms Celebrated on August 23rd:

Wyatt, son of Callie & Sam Isenberg and little brother to Emmit and Millie.

Esther & Casey, children of Chase & Abbie Lindner.

We welcome Wyatt, Esther, & Casey into membership at Trinity!



Thank You Card

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

Words cannot fully express how grateful our family is for the kindness and generosity you have shown us during this difficult time. Your generous financial gifts have been a tremendous blessing to our family. More than the financial assistance itself, we are deeply touched by the love, compassion, and support behind your gifts.

Thank you all again for your prayers, your love, and your support. May God bless each of you for the kindness you have shown us Finches.
Sincerely, Tell, Sara, Rains, & Skylar Finch

Altar Guild Report—

Thank you to Arlene Hamlin, Cindy Hawkins, and Melanie Laspia for their service to the altar during the 5 Sundays in August. During the month of September, Bonnie Triesch and Tara Seymour will prepare the altar. If you would like to help with the altar this month or join a team to serve, contact Sharon Cox at 210-385-2532. Trinity's Altar Guild has groups of 3-4 members who have chosen to serve this ministry on a rotating schedule during the year to prepare the altar for worship. Groups serve once or twice a year for one month at a time.

****ALTAR FLOWER UPDATE—**After a member signs up for altar flowers on the calendar in the hallway leading to the fellowship hall, the church office will confirm if the member will bring the flowers/plants OR if Angie needs to order them from Blanco Floral.

The cost of cut flowers from Blanco Floral has increased and therefore 2 altar arrangements will now be \$50 each with a \$5 delivery fee (a total cost to the church of \$105.00.) As always, a member may choose to purchase and create their own floral arrangements or use purchased potted plants on the altar. For more information, call Angie in the church office (830) 833-4771 or speak with an Altar Guild member.

Women of the Word met August 16 for our Quarterly Meeting

Lunch was served and Tanya Mayer shared information about ministry, missionaries, and her experiences in New Guinea. The ladies present set dates for upcoming activities. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE IMPORTANT DATES:**

The **Women's Group September 15th** fellowship, food, & devotions event is looking for ladies to host. Doris Perez will host on October 20th at her home. The Women's Group will host the Men's Group (CMOB) at a joint dinner/Bible Study at the 3rd Tuesday of February 2027 gathering. Men's Group plan to host the ladies in May 2027.

There will be a "rummage sale" area at the **October 11 Fall Festival**. Those wishing to have a table/booth at that event can bring their "garage sale" type items.

The next **Quarterly Meeting will be held in November**. There will be a Sip and Something following the meeting to make a Christmas craft. An additional Sip and Something has been requested to make the Fall Pumpkins. Watch for the date—late September or early October.

Each month on the 3rd Friday, Doris Perez leads a "scrapbooking/crafts" get together here in the fellowship hall at 10am. Bring any type of craft that you are working on and enjoy fellowship with Doris and other crafters.



After multiple prayer requests and sharing our Lord's Prayer, we adjourned for a delightful afternoon making beautiful fall wreaths at a Sip and Something. (See photo above of Tanya & Cymbre and their beautiful creations!) Thank you Barbara Eubank, Charlotte Humphrey, and Bobbie Morgenroth for helping us!

Mary Jo Pfeiffer, Women's Ministry Leader

A Celebration of Life for Buzz Milam

Will be held Saturday, September 19, 2-4:00 pm
 At Trinity Lutheran Church's Fellowship hall

Trinity offered prayers of sympathy to our beloved Carolyn Milam and her family upon the loss of Buzz. A Celebration of Life reception will be hosted by Clara Gourley in the hall and if anyone would like to donate food (such as sandwiches, desserts, or salads) please let Clara know. Carolyn was an active Stephen Minister at Trinity and we continue to support her in this time of loss.

SEPTEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

***Each Sunday there are many important opportunities to serve your church.
 Call the church office to find out more!*

	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27
Altar Flowers	Sherri & Cymbre Wicker <i>In Memory of Wayne & Jo Wicker</i>	Laura Walla <i>In Honor of Avery & Jacie Walla's Birthdays</i>	<i>Open</i>	Wayne & Martha Gosnell <i>In Memory of Wayne's Parents</i>
Ushers	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley
Worship Assistant	Stan Steiger	Stan Steiger	Barb Geistfeld	Cindy Hawkins
9 AM Lector	Ron Bigler	Arlene Hamlin	Mary Jo Pfeiffer	Roland Pfeiffer
Communion Assistants	<i>No communion</i>	Sheri Riley, 9 AM TBA, 11:15 AM	<i>No communion</i>	Hal Switzer, 9AM TBA, 11:15 AM
Greeters	Bob & Doris Perez	Edward Weirich	Bonnie Triesch Pam Nabers	Hal & Sandy Switzer
Altar Guild	In September:	Bonnie Triesch, Tara Seymour		

Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco
P.O. Box 487, Blanco, TX 78606 830-833-4771 email: trinityblanco@gvtc.com

SEPTEMBER 2026 EVENTS CALENDAR--TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO

Pastor David Mayer—Traditional Worship: 9 AM, (*Service also Live streamed on Facebook*) and Contemporary Worship: 11:15 AM

Fellowship Time in the hall every Sunday! Sunday School for All Ages beginning at 10:15 AM

<i>SUNDAY</i>	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 5pm Stephen Ministry Barnabas Time, FH	2	3 Pastor's Bible Study, 11am	4 <i>Church Office Closed, Pastor's Day off</i>	5
6	7 <i>Office closed for Labor Day holiday No Harvest Workers Kitchen reserved by S. Mercer, 9am-1pm</i>	8	9 Noon-2pm Ladies Game Day, here	10 Pastor's Bible Study, 11am	11 <i>Church Office Closed, Pastor's Day off</i>	12
13 --Communion Noon-4pm, Council Strategic Planning Meeting, FH	14 Harvest Workers Study, 10 AM & 6 PM	15 Women's Group, 6:00pm TBA Men's Group, 6pm at Hawkins' home	16 6:00pm Council of Ministries meeting	17 Pastor's Bible Study, 11am 6pm Hall Reserved by American Legion	18 <i>Church Office Closed, Pastor's Day off</i> 10am Scrapbooking & Crafts gathering	19 2-4pm Hall Reserved for Celebration of Life of Buzz Milam
20	21 Harvest Workers Study, 10 AM & 6 PM	22 Newsletter articles due TODAY!	23 10am Waldenstroms Lymphoma Support Group meets, FH	24 Pastor's Bible Study, 11am	25 <i>Church Office Closed, Pastor's Day off</i>	26 Hall reserved by Sally Anderson
27—Communion	28 Harvest Workers Study, 10 AM & 6 PM	29	30			

News From Your Council of Ministries

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

COUNCIL NOTES—from the July 8, 2026 Meeting

President Jerry Gass called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. Council members present were Norman Eubank, Jerry Gass, Wayne Gosnell, Pastor David Mayer, Keith Morgenroth, Sheri Riley, Karen Steiger, Hal Switzer, and Karen Wagner. Pastor David shared devotional thoughts from David Gooding's devotional for July 8 from "Daily Readings on God's Transforming Power". Our God is a God of Restoration... not just for His favored people, but even the ungodly. May we examine our own hearts to have a clarity of fulfilling God's purpose in our lives as individuals and as Church Council members.

The Minutes of the June 17th Council meeting were corrected as follows:

- 1) In the 3rd paragraph from the bottom of the first page, the last sentence should read "Keith gave the Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2026".
- 2) Under Youth and Education, Camp Sunday will be August 16th.

The Action Items were discussed. Norman made a motion to accept the Minutes as corrected, Wayne seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion.

Sheri gave the Financial Report through June 2026. Keith gave the Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2026. Pastor David submitted his report. Council members approved the request by member, Ken McWilliams, to be able to use our Fellowship Hall for his sister's "rare cancer support group". More details will follow, but meetings on Tuesday or Wednesday from 11-12:45 once a month will be proposed. The next Harvest Workers course will be on the History of the Reformation. Pastor Alan Williams, who helps at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church in Fredericksburg, will preach on Sunday, July 19th, when Pastor David is at Summer Camp with our Youth. The LCMC Texas District Annual Gathering will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Braunfels on July 24th & 25th. Pastor Bill Moberly with Awakening Live to World Mission (ALWM) will preach on Sunday, July 26, when Pastor David is at the LCMC Gathering. Pastor Moberly will also present ALWM during Sunday School.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

--Youth and Education – In Ashley's absence, Karen W. reported that 30 campers between the ages of 8 and 17 will attend camp in Oklahoma, with 6 adults accompanying them. They will have a lock-in at the church the night before because the bus leaves at 4:00am the next morning.

--Stewardship – No report was submitted.

--Evangelism – No report was submitted, but Karen W. reported that Sally would like to postpone the EMT lunch until September.

--Fellowship – Karen W. had nothing to report other than her ongoing responsibility to keep the kitchen stocked.

--Worship – No report was submitted. Wayne would like to design a flyer/article inviting outside musicians to play for Trinity's contemporary worship service. All interested musicians are encouraged to contact Pastor David.

--Property – Norman submitted his report. The painting project is going well. The narthex, old kitchen, and media room are painted. Painting the sanctuary is scheduled to begin July 13th. The electrical work on the federal breaker panel (FPE) is scheduled for July 24th. Concerning the hearing-impaired project, Norman has found a system that will connect into our sound system through phone apps, ear buds, hearing aids, etc.

The Council members acknowledged that the Committee Reports were given and accepted.

Old Business

--There were no domestic Thank-Yous received this month. Wayne submitted a handout including a communication from Tartu Academy of Theology of Estonia, highlighting the need to raise \$300,000 to pay off the mortgage for their Home of Hope. Trinity had participated in a fundraiser to build a church in Estonia several years ago. The intent was to include Trinity's name on a plaque if we could raise \$10,000 for the church, which we did.

Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco
P.O. Box 487, Blanco, TX 78606 830-833-4771 email: trinityblanco@gvvc.com

--The Communion Assistants schedule was updated as follows: Sept 13, Sheri Riley (1st); Sept 27, Hal Switzer (1st).

Pastor David announced that the Global Leadership Summit will be held at Trinity on Aug 6th & 7th from 9:00am-4:00pm both days.

New Business

--Keith presented a draft of the Debit Card Charge Form which he had hoped the Council would approve, but requested the approval take place next month when more Council members are present for the meeting. He briefly discussed how TLC's cash is disbursed, using the June 2026 bank statement and highlighting debit card use.

--Jerry reviewed the Benevolence Factors for the 2nd quarter which Angie will pay out. Our discussion resulted in changes to be made for the 3rd quarter. Norman made a motion to change Blanco County CRC to an 8% factor and move Lutherans for Life to the variable column. Keith seconded the motion and the Council members approved the motion.

--Hal reported on the quarterly Security review. He has spoken to Andrew Forsberg about fixing the door to the playground and will also check with him on the closure devices on the narthex restroom doors.

--The need for a Council Retreat was discussed. Pastor David made several suggestions:

- 1) Be strategic about preparing for Trinity's future.
- 2) Sunday afternoon meeting for 3 to 4 hours on September 13th, and then again October 18th if more discussion is needed.

--Pastor announced that Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Co is going to be represented at the LCMC Texas District Gathering. They are looking at pooling our Texas churches into a co-op to reduce insurance costs.

--Wayne found 2 old Trinity signs in the storage building. He would like to attach the "motto" sign on the back of the storage building. He would also like to attach the "Father Forgive Them" sign to the big cross on the corner of the property. He needs to get a permit from the city for both signs. Hal made a motion to attach both signs as proposed, Norman seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion.

Upcoming events include the Men's Group meeting on Tuesday, July 21st at 6:00pm at Harvey Lindeman's house. The Women's Group will meet on Tuesday, July 21st at 6:00pm in The Fellowship Hall.

Sheri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Hal seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:38pm with everyone reciting The Lord's Prayer.



Trinity's newest Stephen Ministry Leader: Brenda Moore completed training to become a Stephen Minister and was commissioned at the 9 AM Worship Service on August 23rd. Pictured above: Brenda's commissioning by Pastor David and supported by the current and past Stephen Ministers at Trinity. To find out more about Stephen Ministry, speak with Brenda or Pastor David.



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



To the Ends of the Earth

Recently I spent three days in meetings with LCMC leaders from across our association. While we discussed many important topics, one stood out from the rest. Service Coordinator Julie Smith and Mike Wind, from our Global Mission Fellowship, put forth this question: What does it really mean for LCMC to become a truly global church?

For most of our history, we have been a largely North American association that included a minority membership of congregations on other continents. We currently have 1049 total congregations with 876 here in North America. Over the past year, global interest in our association has sky-rocketed! For example, Lutheran leaders of more than 1,500 congregations across the African countries of Liberia, Congo, and Nepal have expressed interest in joining our LCMC family. This is a thrilling development, but not without its challenges. In 2001, the 25 charter congregations of LCMC dared to dream of a global church body. Now, 25 years and over 1000 congregations later, we are on the verge of living into that reality in a whole new way!

I appreciated how Mike and Julie named the tension before us: We are now asking questions we have never had to ask ourselves before. But LCMC does not have to become a different association in order to welcome an influx of international congregations because we were designed for that in the beginning and our DNA is strong: We are Free in Christ, Accountable to One Another, Rooted in the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, and Working Together to Fulfill Christ's Great Commission. These core values guide how we operate as an association. The challenge before us is to discern which parts of how we operate are essential to the Gospel and which are culturally American. Mike reminded us that our LCMC DNA may get lived out and look different in Uruguay or Myanmar than it does in Texas. I agree with Mike's assessment and therefore do not view these potential new congregations as a threat to who we are, but instead as a gift because of the Gospel taking root in new soil.

And this development is the fruit of faithful mission that began long ago and continues to this day. From Jesus' ascension, He commissioned his disciples to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19) and declared that we would be His witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). For generations, Lutheran missionaries have traveled the world over and proclaimed the Gospel to new people where it has taken root and flourished in ways we can be jealous of. And these recent developments are a gift to our association: we have brothers and sisters the world over that have found us and are interested in joining us in our shared mission!

So how do we LCMC Lutherans in Texas prepare to receive our brothers and sisters abroad? First, we pray for those facing persecution, especially in India, Nepal, and Myanmar. In addition, I would encourage individuals and congregations to build relationships and consider adopting a sister LCMC congregation in a foreign land. And finally, we need to begin opening ourselves to how Lutherans around the world live out our LCMC DNA in a diversity of contexts. A day may soon come when we have far more congregations outside of North America than within. And thanks be to God for the gift of these global congregations.

I'd like to leave you with a final thought from our friend Mike Wind: "Every healthy church should become a blessing beyond itself." Our Texas District mission is to multiply disciples and churches. May we embrace this calling with renewed boldness, encouraged by our international brothers and sisters in Christ.

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. Sept 2026