

TRINITY TIDINGS

Monthly Newsletter of <u>Trinity Lutheran Church</u> August 2025 Stonewall, Texas

Looking back ...

What a blessing this last year has been for Trinity. It was just a year ago in August that we gathered together as a church family for a potluck and talked about the blessings from the past couple of years and plans for the future. At that meeting we talked and prayed about a couple of things, the main item was starting a second worship service. As you know, we have had two Sunday morning worship services: 9 am Contemporary and 10:30 am Traditional, since September, along with our Fellowship Time and Children's Church. As we approach this anniversary, we want to know how you are feeling about it. We will be sending out a survey during the month of August and would love your thoughts! We will also have copies available at church.

New Member Class -

Trinity will be offering a New Member session for people interested in learning more about our church family. On **Sunday, August 24**th, **following the second service around 11:45 am**. Together we will discuss: "Who we are as a church family, what our Core beliefs are, and how we can live our faith together today." We will meet in the Education Hall or Fellowship Hall, depending on group size. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Trinity, and then if you desire to take steps to join our church family we will have information about that as well. Lunch will be provided, please RSVP with number so we make sure we have enough for all. To sign up please call the church office, sign up before or after church, or email at stonewalltlcoffice@gmail.com

VBS

We had a wonderful week at the Great Jungle Journey Vacation Bible School July 22-24th that wrapped up on Friday July 25th with a family fun event and BBQ for the whole church family. The children got to travel around the church campus to experience Bible

THE GREAT

AnswersVBS

Adventure, Outdoor Fun, Arts and Crafts time, and even served lunch with our wonderful volunteers leading the way. The day started and ended with praise and worship together with connection to our themes for the day. We had over 60 children registered with 13 youth helpers and over 40 adult volunteers. A big thank you to all who were involved, we had a week of many blessings!







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SUMMER SCHEDULE

Children's Church will continue to be held on non-communion Sundays through the summer. (2nd, 4th, & if there is a 5th Sunday) On communion Sundays, we encourage families to come and worship as a family.

August: 10th, 24th, & 31st

Sunday **August 10th** during both services - We would love the kids to bring their backpack to church for a special blessing over them and the school year.



<u>Trinity</u>'s **Services** are streamed each Sunday, so that people who cannot attend in person can participate with us. You can also view past services. No Facebook account needed to watch the live stream. When following the link, if you do not have an account, just skip the instructions for signing in. When you get to the <u>Facebook video page</u> you should be able to scroll down and click on the video that has the word "LIVE" in red.

Secure online option for those who want to give their offering in this manner. Available through the website: www.stonewalltrinitylutheran.com You can now set up a one-time or recurring gift to Trinity. We will ask those giving in this way, to cover the expense of the transaction fee of 1.2% for ACH and 3.2% for Credit Cards. All donations will be then kept in our database and included in the year-end giving statements.

TRINITY MEMBERS IN ASSISTED LIVING OR HOMEBOUND

Windcrest: Josephine Schaeferkoeter Rm 451
Connie Dittmar, 1400 Hilltop Rd. Kerrville TX 78028
Gary & Greta Frantzen, 181 Frantzen Ln, Fredericksburg
Janice Hartmann, 781 Chester Rd., Johnson City
Mike & Elsie Kuykendall, 408 Redbird Ln, Fredericksburg
Mary Lindig, PO Box 186, Hye 78636
Doris Schaeferkoeter 501 FM 3237, Rm 404, Wimberley
LaVerne Zoeller, 1352 CR 350 Concan, TX 78838





We Are Family

As I sit down to write this edition of the *Mission Moment*, final preparations are underway for the 16th Annual Texas District Gathering. This year marks my 11th Gathering, and I find myself reflecting on the gift of this family of faith that we have in Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC). While it is accurate to refer to us as a "church body" or an "association," I prefer the term "family" to describe what we are and should aspire to be.

While we find many metaphors for the church in the New Testament, family is a rich image for us. Consistently Jesus referred to his disciples as siblings, his brothers. After Jesus ascended, Jesus' followers claimed this familial title as they referred to one another as brothers or sisters in Christ. Paul frequently used this language as he addressed Christ followers throughout his missionary journeys. And I believe that of all the biblical metaphors for the church, the image of family elevates for us God's desire for our relational connection to and for one another.

For several years, I heard Mark Vander Tuig, retired LCMC Service Coordinator, say that "LCMC Gatherings were like family reunions... but with family you actually like!" While Mark's comment always drew raucous laughter, no one can deny the truth beneath the punchline. LCMC is more than a church body or an association: We are family!

Today I had a conversation with someone who decided not to attend our Gathering. He shared with me that he felt like an outsider and that the Gathering was not for him. As he shared this, I hurt for this brother and his experience of disconnection. I did my best to dissuade him of this idea of being an outsider, encouraging him to give it a try and come and see. I see him as simply newer to the family than others. I hope in the future he and all who are a part of our body can see and experience for themselves the gift of being a part of the family.

As family we have much in common. Our DNA is our common confession of faith, our shared core values, and our mission to be and make disciples of Jesus. Yet as family we have great diversity, too. Each congregation and member lives out their faith in their own unique way. Like families we celebrate both that which we have in common as well as that which is unique and special about each individual family member. We love one another, pray for one another, encourage one another, and help one another. Even at times when we don't agree with one another, we still respect and appreciate one another.

I invite you to join me in praising God for the gift of our family of faith of which we are a part. I pray that the gift of this family can be a source of strength for each member. If you have not been to one of our gatherings or retreats, I hope you will join us soon for one of our family reunions. By participating, connecting, and relating, I am confident that you will both be blessed... and a blessing to others!

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.

BLESSING BOWL 2025

January - Lutheran World Relief \$2539.57

February - Hill Country Needs Council \$1135.93

March - Ministerial Alliance \$964.00

March - Special offering for Crabapple Fire \$7040.00

April - Johnson City Food Pantry \$1095

May - Good Samaritan Center \$888

June - Stonewall Food Pantry \$2012.96

Special Flood Relief

July - Young Life: Fredericksburg & Johnson City

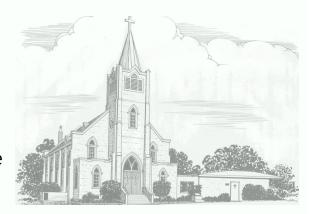
August - Golden Hub: Meals on Wheels

September - Hill Country School Partnership

October - Samaritan's Purse

November - Stonewall Chamber Toy & Food Drive

December - MOM Center



Attendance 2025												
	Jan	Jan 9 am	Jan 10:30 am	Feb	Feb 9 am	Feb 10:30 am	Mar ⁽⁵⁾	Mar ⁽⁵⁾ 9 am	Mar ⁽⁵⁾ 10:30 am	April	April 9 am	April 10:30 am
Total	387	211	176	446	263	183	529	284	245	554	252	302
Avg	97	53	44	112	66	46	106	57	49	139	63	76
	May	May 9 am	May 10:30 am	June ⁽⁵⁾	June ⁽⁵⁾ 9 am	June ⁽⁵⁾ 10:30 am	July	July 9 am	July 10:30 am	Aug ⁽⁵⁾	Aug ⁽⁵⁾ 9 am	Aug ⁽⁵⁾ 10:30 am
Total	427	195	233	475	269	206	386	217	169			
Avg	107	49	59	95	54	42	97	55	43			
	Sept	Sept 9 am	Sept 10:30 am	Oct	Oct 9 am	Oct 10:30 am	Nov ⁽⁵⁾	Nov ⁽⁵⁾ 9 am	Nov ⁽⁵⁾ 10:30 am	Dec	Dec 9 am	Dec 10:30 am
Total												
Avg												

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS for July meeting:

- Rally day set for September 7th
- Cemetery Guidelines approved by council to be presented to congregation at the September meeting for ratification.
- Now accepting reservations for burial plots, grave or columbarium.
- Pastor attends LCMC District Conference in Victoria July 25-26.
- September 28th will be only 1 service at 9 AM followed by a congregational meeting.
- Church received donation of a tractor & shredder.

Wednesday, August 27th @ 10am

Join pastor Ryan for a preplanning session to learn more about how to help loved ones prepare for a memorial or funeral. Now that the

columbarium is setup and reservations are being accepted, it seems fitting to offer an information

session about future planning. All are welcome to attend.

Volunteers

Please click this link or copy and put into your web browser to be directed to the signup:

volunteersignup.org/AQKPM

Worship Assistants for August: 9 am - Elliot Jacoby & 10:30 am - Linda Uecker Altar Guild – Mary F Meier & Kay Pitts

Bírthdays								
Aug 1	Dorothy Uecker	Aug 15	Megan Smith					
Aug 2	Steven Meier	Aug 20	Connor Simms					
Aug 2	Todd Meier	Aug 21	Sherry Conlon					
Aug 2	Mark Schumann	Aug 24	Cypress Schumann					
Aug 10	Sonja Hartmann	Aug 27	Brandon Behrends					
Aug 14	Anissa Meier	Aug 27	Bea Lyle					
Aug 14	Kyla Simms	Aug 30	Judy Schumann					
	Anniverse	aries						

Aug 4	34 yrs	Chris and Karlette Lindig	Aug 14	43 yrs	Mark and Teresa Mazur
Aug 7	26 yrs	Allan and Cherity Hardison	Aug 15	44 yrs	Johnny and Cynthia Wade
Aug 7	54 yrs	Ross and Karen Petermann	Aug 26	47 yrs	Nick and Emma Gene Johnson
Aug 10	29 yrs	Ryan and Tifanie Meyer	Aug 28	61 yrs	James and Sandra Deike
Aug 12	59 yrs	Emil and Linda Uecker			

August 2025								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
					1 Office closed	2 Fellowship Hall Rental all day		
3 Communion 9 am Contemporary 10:30 am Traditional	5:30pm praise rehearsal	5 10am Happy Quilters	6	7	8 Office closed	9		
10 Backpack Blessing 9 am Contemporary Children's church 10:30 am Traditional	5:30pm praise rehearsal	12 10am Happy Quilters	13	14 9am Stitch & Tie Quilting	15 Office closed 2 pm - '42'	16		
17 Communion 9 am Contemporary 10:30 am Traditional Council meeting following	5:30pm praise rehearsal	19 10am Happy Quilters	20	21	22 Office closed	23		
9 am Contemporary Children's church 10:30 am Traditional 11:45am New Member Class	5:30pm praise rehearsal	26 10am Happy Quilters	27 10am preplanning session	28 9am TLC Quilting	29 Office closed	30		
31 9 am Contemporary Children's church 10:30 am Traditional								

Budget Recap (As of June 30th - 2nd Quarter) Annual Budget \$340,300

Year to Date

Income \$192,808.04 56.66% Expense \$185,187.40 54.42%

<u>Altar Guild</u> is looking for some more assistance. If you are willing to volunteer to help with getting communion and other worship needs ready for Sunday mornings, please contact the church office @ 830-644-2479 or contact an altar guild member.

August Flowers

- 8/3 Ross & Karen Petermann For their Anniversary
- 8/10 Carter & Claire Blenden With prayers for a great school year
- 8/17 Betty & Tony Martin Martin Mohr birthday memory
- 8/24 Pam Meier For August Birthdays
- 8/31 Mark & Debi Schumann For Judy Schumann's Birthday