



# TRINITY TIDINGS

Monthly Newsletter of [Trinity Lutheran Church](#)  
December 2025 Stonewall, Texas

**Christmas time is upon us!** The hustle and bustle of making sure everything is just right! The Christmas decorations, the gifts, the guests, the meal... It can honestly be a little overwhelming and make us feel more grinch like, rather than blessed. What if we were to Unwrap Christmas and just get to the meaning of it all. I believe it would



refresh us and renew us, so come with us as we look at *Christmas Unwrapped* and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas when Jesus arrived as our Savior wrapped in the form of a baby.

I will once again post Advent devotions on our website and Facebook page each Wednesday looking at the Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace that we have until His second Advent. Then every Sunday we will gather in worship to adore Him. There are several ways I would invite you to join in. First, if you or your family would be willing to introduce and light one of our Advent candles on November 30, December 7, or 21, please let me know. On December 14th we have the blessing of our worship being led by our children and youth as they share the story of the Jesse Tree with us at one service at 9 am, there will not be a 10:30 am service.

Help us invite family, community, and friends to our Christmas Eve worship at 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Our theme for Christmas Eve is *Christmas Unwrapped*, the gift that no one deserves, yet it changes eternity for them!

May your Advent preparations and Christmas celebrations be blessed by our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Ryan



## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Single service set for Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> for children's program.
- Christmas Eve services set for Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 and 7 pm. No Christmas Day service.
- Discussion & update on Music Director
- Defibrillator purchased for Fellowship Hall.
- Council approved proposed budget for ratification by congregation
- Congregational meeting set on January 25th meeting

**Trinity'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 [Facebook video page](#) 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](http://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.

*Advent Video devotions will be available  
on Wednesdays on our website and  
Facebook during Advent*

Children's Church Christmas  
Program December 14th  
@ 9 am one combined church  
service



◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

◆ **Advent worship services:** ◆

◆ Nov 30, Dec 7th, 14th & 21st ◆

◆ **Children's Christmas Service** ◆

◆ Dec 14th @ 9 am (only one service) ◆

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆



◆ **Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Services** ◆

◆ 5 pm & 7 pm ◆

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆



Children's Church will take a few days off during the Christmas Break:  
**Dec 28th & Jan 4th**

Blessing Bowl for December

MOM Center

### Confirmation 2025-2026

Classes continue for our middle school - 9th grade students on select Sundays from noon – 1:30 pm. Bring a lunch and your Bible.

Upcoming dates: 12/7, 1/4, 1/25, 2/1, 2/22, 3/1, 3/29, 4/26

**Confirmation is May 3rd**

### Worship Assistants for December:

9 am - Joni Biesenbach & 10:30 am - Tim Wagner

Altar Guild – Mary F Meier

Volunteers: Please click this link or copy and put into your web browser to be directed to the signup: [volunteersignup.org/AQKPM](https://volunteersignup.org/AQKPM)

### December Flowers

7th - Ross & Karen Petermann - For God's Gifts

14th - Children's Program

21st & 24th - Poinsettias - Sponsor a plant! Forms available @ church

28th - [open](#)



### TRINITY MEMBERS IN ASSISTED LIVING OR HOMEBOUND

Windcrest: Josephine Schaeferkoeter Rm 451

Connie Dittmar, 1400 Hilltop Rd. Kerrville TX 78028

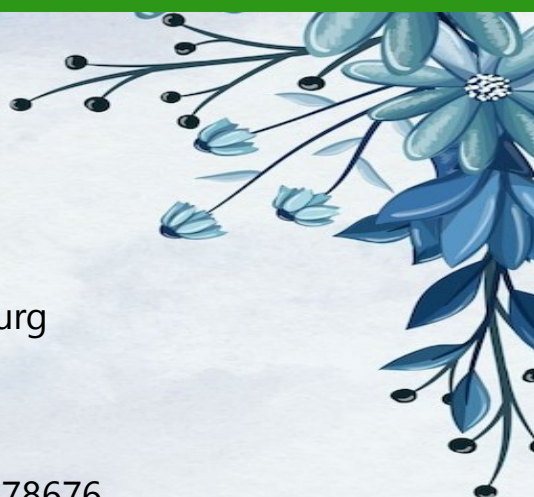
Gary & Greta Frantzen, 181 Frantzen Ln, Fredericksburg

Mike Kuykendall, 408 Redbird Ln, Fredericksburg

Mary Lindig, PO Box 186, Hye 78636

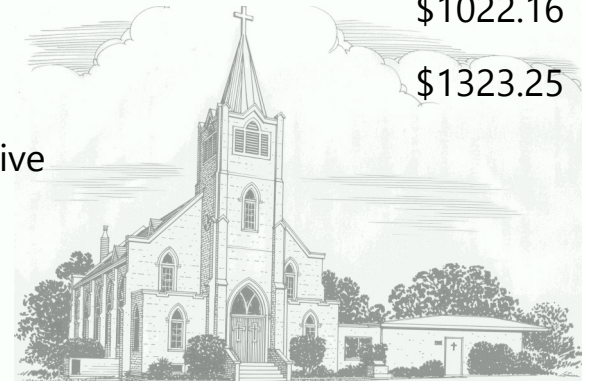
Doris Schaeferkoeter 4701 Ratcliffe Dr #219 Kyle, TX 78676

LaVerne Zoeller, 1352 CR 350 Concan, TX 78838



## 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
July - Special Flood Relief	\$9809
August - Golden Hub: Meals on Wheels	\$1158.74
August - Young Life: \$430.50 Johnson City & \$430.50 Fredericksburg	\$861
September - Hill Country School Partnership	\$1022.16
October - Samaritan's Purse	\$1323.25
November - Stonewall Chamber Toy & Clothing Drive	
December - MOM Center	



### Attendance 2025

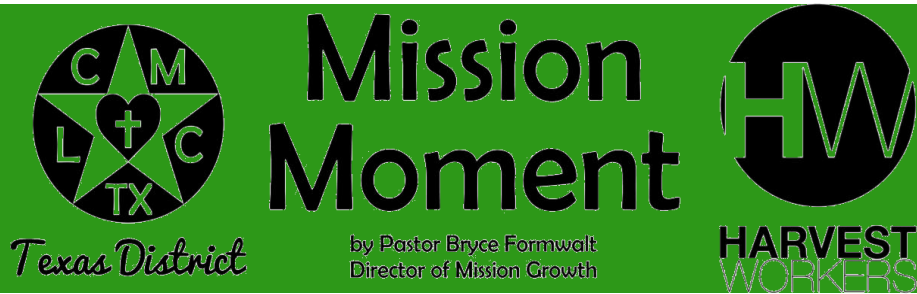
	<b>Jan</b>	Jan 9 am	Jan 10:30 am	<b>Feb</b>	Feb 9 am	Feb 10:30 am	<b>Mar<sup>(5)</sup></b>	Mar <sup>(5)</sup> 9 am	Mar <sup>(5)</sup> 10:30 am	<b>April</b>	April 9 am	April 10:30 am
<b>Total</b>	387	211	176	446	263	183	529	284	245	554	252	302
<b>Avg</b>	97	53	44	112	66	46	106	57	49	139	63	76
	<b>May</b>	May 9 am	May 10:30 am	<b>June<sup>(5)</sup></b>	June <sup>(5)</sup> 9 am	June <sup>(5)</sup> 10:30 am	<b>July</b>	July 9 am	July 10:30 am	<b>Aug<sup>(5)</sup></b>	Aug <sup>(5)</sup> 9 am	Aug <sup>(5)</sup> 10:30 am
<b>Total</b>	427	195	233	475	269	206	386	217	169	487	248	239
<b>Avg</b>	107	49	59	95	54	42	97	55	43	98	50	48
	<b>Sept</b>	Sept 9 am	Sept 10:30 am	<b>Oct</b>	Oct 9 am	Oct 10:30 am	<b>Nov<sup>(5)</sup></b>	Nov <sup>(5)</sup> 9 am	Nov <sup>(5)</sup> 10:30 am	<b>Dec</b>	Dec 9 am	Dec 10:30 am
<b>Total</b>	417	157	156	402	218	184						
<b>Avg</b>	105	53	52	101	55	46						





Community  
Events





## Generosity: A Spiritual Discipline

I enjoy personal and organizational financial planning and take pride in managing financial affairs well in order to make the most of the resources available. When I think about stewardship, first and foremost in my mind is God's call to be wise and faithful managers. Yet within the realm of stewardship lies a practice that runs against the grain and can almost seem contradictory and foolish. This is the practice of generosity.

Generosity is freely giving resources away without any expectation of return or personal benefit. Biblically, we understand that generosity included sharing resources in common with other members of a local church; giving cheerfully to missions; tithing (giving a tenth of one's increase) to the local community of worship; and caring for the poor, the hungry, the orphans, and the widows. In our human way of thinking, it doesn't really make sense to give away that which we "worked hard for" or at least worked hard to manage well. But in God's economy, generosity is a key practice in a faithful, trusting walk following Jesus as his disciples.

Years ago, I attended church men's group where a member of my congregation shared something profound. When we were talking about tithing, he shared that he believed that God chose 10% completely on purpose to develop our trust in God. He reasoned that had God called us to give a smaller percentage, our human self-reliance would likely kick-in with the Devil leading us to think we could "handle it" on our own. But this isn't the case with a call to give 10%. The call to tithe compels us to trust God. It is too much for us to do apart from trusting God each day to give us our daily bread. The spiritual discipline of generosity helps to break us from our sin of self-reliance.

There are many other good things that come about when we practice generosity. Another that comes to mind is how God tends to multiply our offerings, sometimes in miraculous ways. Consider the story of the feeding of the 5,000. Jesus took the gift of one boy's lunch and then instructed the disciples to be generous with it and share the food with the crowds. In their faithful generosity, the Lord multiplied the small offering and created an abundance that to this day still amazes us. But this is what God does with our generosity.

Friends, I would like to encourage you to be good stewards and manage your financial affairs with wisdom and faithfulness. And I also invite you to consider anew Jesus' call to the spiritual discipline of generosity: Tithe to your local church, give cheerfully to missions and causes that align with your faith, and care for the basic human needs in your local community and beyond as the Lord gives you opportunity.

Giving Tuesday is December 2, a day dedicated to celebrating and encouraging generosity. This is a great time to make new commitments to grow in generosity. If you would like to contribute to the mission of LCMC Texas District or Harvest Workers, go to [www.lcmctexas.org/giving-tuesday](http://www.lcmctexas.org/giving-tuesday) to find out how to double your donation.

*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. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or [bryce@lcmctexas.org](mailto:bryce@lcmctexas.org).*

# December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  5:30pm praise rehearsal	2  10am Happy Quilters	3  9:30 am Women's Bible Study	4	5  Office closed	6
7 Communion 9 am Contemporary 9 am small group study Children's Church 10:30 am Traditional 10:30a small group study 12-1:30 pm Confirmation	8 State park group in Fellowship hall  5:30pm praise rehearsal	9 State park group in Fellowship hall  10am Happy Quilters	10 State park group in Fellowship hall	11  9am Stitch & Tie Quilting	12  Office closed	13
14 9 am One blended service - Children's Christmas Program	15  5:30pm praise rehearsal	16 10am Happy Quilters	17	18	19  Office closed  2 pm - '42'	20
21 Communion 9 am Contemporary 9 am small group study Children's Church 10:30 am Traditional 10:30a small group study	22  5:30pm praise rehearsal	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 5 pm & 7 pm	25  <i>Merry Christmas</i>  <b>Christmas Day No services</b>	26  Office closed	27
28 9 am Contemporary 9 am small group study <b>NO</b> Children's Church 10:30 am Traditional 10:30a small group study	29  5:30pm praise rehearsal	30	31			

## *Birthdays*

12/3	Ross Petermann	12/12	Jenna Najera	12/21	Marilyn Nebgen
12/4	Emma Gene Johnson	12/13	Wyatt Hahne	12/23	Louis Eckert
12/6	Margaret Deike	12/13	Gary Mayer	12/26	Laura Weinheimer
12/6	Melissa Fisher	12/16	Jennifer Najera	12/27	Ryan Meyer
12/6	LaVerne Zoeller	12/16	Emily Surma	12/28	Alysha Behrends
12/8	Dana Smith	12/16	Wyatt Surma	12/29	Ada Wilke
12/9	Robert Wagner	12/17	Gail Nielsen	12/31	Emil Uecker
12/12	Claire Blenden	12/19	Russell Maenius		

## *Anniversaries*

12-28 12 yrs Joel & Natalie Handley

