

A Community

Following Jesus

Volume 33, Issue 3

The Messenger

Jesus Is the Heart of Trinity Preschool

By Jo Ann Emerson, Preschool Director

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Dates to remember:

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- February 11, Transfiguration Jazz Services, p. 8
- February 18, Heart-to-Heart Pancake Breakfast, p. 4
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Each year, Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool rejoices and gives thanks to God along with over 2,000 Lutheran schools during National Lutheran Schools Week. Trinity’s preschool staff has a great and awesome responsibility to serve as role models for the students. Apart from parents, we know there is no more important role model for students than a teacher. We are tasked with demonstrating the joy of forgiveness, grace, and mercy that Jesus bestows upon us. We thank the congregation for letting us serve Shawnee and surrounding communities as we stand fast in the knowledge that our Lord and Savior is the same yesterday and today and forever.

National Lutheran Schools Week was celebrated this year January 22-26. The theme, *It’s Still All About Jesus*, focused on Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

On Monday, we learned that Jesus is the **Message**. The Bible is God’s message to us. We may not receive mail from Grandma everyday or have a note tucked into our lunchbox each day, but we DO get a message from God every day!

Preschool Challenge to You: Can you think of someone to whom you might deliver the message of God’s love? (We made Valentines to share with shut-ins and nursing home residents.)

On Tuesday, we learned that Jesus is the **Truth**. We talked about the difference between lies and truth. When we tell the truth we often feel good; when we lie people often are hurt. The devil is called the “father of lies.” We know that Jesus is the truth and was sent to save us from our sins.

Preschool Challenge to You: Can you think of some lies that Satan tries to



have us believe? (We prayed and thanked God for giving us truth tellers in our school and church.)

On Wednesday, we learned that Jesus is the **Mission**. Many missions in history are important: the Pilgrims’ mission to survive in a new land; Lewis and Clark’s mission to explore new areas; NASA’s mission to discover more about the moon and all of space. But the most significant mission in history was that of God sending His only Son to

(Continued on page 10)

Growing as Disciples

By Pastor Mark Schulz



At Trinity we are committed to growing as disciples as we listen to Jesus and seek to live like Him. Last year we introduced Life Measures as a tool to help us reflect on our spiritual growth by identifying strengths in our lives as disciples of Jesus as well as areas that are weaknesses. The idea is that we might revisit the Life Measures assessment

periodically to see how God is shaping our growth as disciples. The Life Measures assessment has recently been updated with additional resources including Scripture references for reflection and prayer as well as other tools that you may find helpful. In addition, the assessment has been moved to a new location—under the "Resources" tab on Trinity's

homepage—to make it more easily accessible. Please check it out! Several members have commented to me that the assessment has been helpful to them as they seek to grow in their discipleship. I welcome your feedback regarding this discipleship tool! May God bless us as we seek daily to be a "Community Following Jesus."

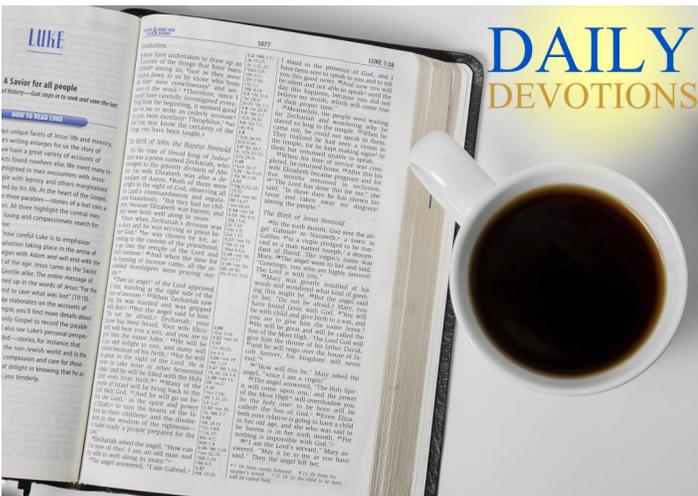
Questions of Emergence: A Lenten Journey and Devotional

By Pastor Ben Vineyard

I, Pastor Ben, love the season of Lent. The daffodils in my mother's yard were always a first sign of the changing season. Light overcame more of the darkness as days lengthened day by day. The symbols of the season led to noticing

elements of the spiritual life. Lent always finds me in renewed reading. The sunlight, the warmth, and the wintery setbacks that surprise us in March all weave together in a renewed life of prayer. This is my experience. Prayer is not the only arrival or emergence. Questions come along too. I learned not long ago that Lent was the ancient season of "catechesis" or deeper theological study. This often culminated in an intense affirmation of faith on Holy Saturday where those new to the faith were baptized at midnight, dying with Christ and rising with Christ. This image strikes me years later and now Lent for me, along with a warmer life of prayer,

is a season of study and wrestling. I would like to journey together in this season. I'll share some prompts for thought, prayer, and reading. Sign up for this at tlcms.org if you want an email copy sent to you every day in Lent. I will also print booklets and make them available at both campuses. Sign up with this link: <http://eepurl.com/deerRz>. May our hearts be ever opened by the Spirit of God, that we might be brought to the Father through faith in the Son, always trusting, always walking side by side. Always, until Christ returns. Peace to you, through Jesus our Savior.



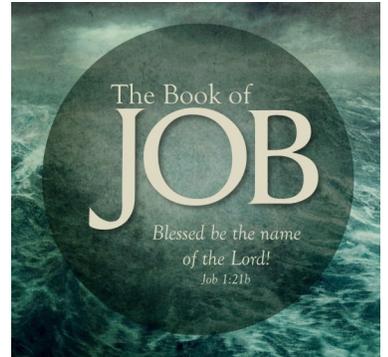
Midweek Lenten Theme: The Book of Job

By Pastor Mark Schulz

Midweek Lenten Theme The Book of Job: Blessed Be the Name of the Lord!

Midweek Lenten services will begin with Ash Wednesday on February 14. During the six Wednesday services this year we will focus our attention on the book of Job. Join us at noon or 7pm at the Mission campus and at 7pm at the Shawnee campus.

Ash Wednesday: Flying Blind	Job 1:1–12
Lent 1: Sweet Surrender	Job 1:13–21
Lent 2: Learning to Lament	Job 3:1–26
Lent 3: It Is Enough	Job 14:1–14
Lent 4: Understanding How It All Works Together	Job 23:1–17
Lent 5: God Speaks in the Storm	Job 38:1–11



Lenten Meals at the Shawnee Campus

By Pastor Ben Vineyard

We will be doing Lenten meals this year, as in years past. We'll be serving meals that start at 5:30pm and go until 6:45pm. Worship starts at 7pm. And, for those involved with Lenten Mentoring, mentoring begins at 6pm and lasts until right before the worship

service starts. Meal details, etc. are still coming together! I'll let you know what we make of it! Also, if you have the hankering to help lead a meal, I'd love to hear from you—especially if you make food I really like!



New Member Class—Shawnee Campus

By Pastor Phil Cook

If you would like to explore what our faith community is all about, consider a membership class. Whether you are wanting to explore how faith can center your life and give you meaning and fulfillment or you are a

long-time Lutheran who has questions about faith, this class would be helpful for you. A New Member Class is in the process of forming at the Shawnee campus. If you've been thinking about making Trinity your church

home, now is the time! Come explore what it means to become part of this "Community Following Jesus." Contact Pastor Phil at phil@tlcms.org for more information.



Youth Family Minister Call Extended

By Pastor Phil Cook



At the recent congregational assembly, Trinity voted to extend a call to Ross Owens to be our Youth Family Minister. Ross is a 2012 graduate of Concordia University-Texas, and currently serves at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Houston. He is married to Caitlyn (Cate), and they have a seven-month-old son, Ezekiel.

Ross' understanding of what it means to be a "Community Following Jesus" and his focus on making disciples who can share Jesus with others makes him a great fit for us. In addition, Ross has demonstrated great skills in building ministry teams, as well as in organization and developing relationships with others. He would be a

great addition to the team at Trinity. Please keep Ross and his family in your prayers over the next several weeks, as he considers the call to come to Trinity. If you wish, you can also send Ross a note of encouragement at owens.ross@gmail.com or 1115 S. Nottingham Dr., League City, TX 77573.

Heart-to-Heart Pancake Breakfast

By Joel Shifflett



**Sunday, February 18
8am-noon**

Everyone in the congregation is invited to the annual Heart-to-Heart pancake breakfast on February 18, 8am – noon, in the Mission campus

fellowship hall. The delicious pancake meal is catered by Chris Cakes, famous for the best pancakes in town! A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the Heart-to-Heart assistance fund. Proceeds

go toward supporting those in need of assistance, whether members or non-members.

LWML Coffee and Tea Sale

By Elfriede Möbling



LWML coffee and tea sale will be held between worship services at the Mission campus on Sunday, February 11. Be sure to stop by the table to select from the wide variety of flavors available. Selected varieties may also be purchased in the gift shop between sale dates. The large purple and white mite box will be

available on the coffee table. One of the many mission projects being supported by your donation is Lutheran Children's Books for Families Worldwide. Learn more about this project from the poster behind the mite box. Thank you for your support!

Shawnee Playlist Available

By Pastor Phil Cook

Worship is meant to be participatory: God acts, we respond. God comes to us with his mercy and grace; we respond with thanks and praise. One of the many ways we do that is through music. The majority of the music in our services is meant to be sung by the congregation. And yet, it can be difficult to sing a new, unfamiliar song for the first time. To help us learn these new songs, and also to help us praise God throughout the week, we are now making available on YouTube the playlist of songs that will be sung on the upcoming Sunday at the Shawnee campus. Simply

follow this link https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLf6JauCkUmCc_TTZbp3qOJIG21XnPbejM and you will be able to listen in to what is coming up. The link is also available at tlcms.org for easy access. Parents, this can be a great way to engage young children. Pre-readers or early readers can't follow along with the screens. But if they are familiar with a tune, it's easy to say "Remember this song we heard earlier this week? Let's sing along." This engages them in the service, teaches them how to worship, and makes the morning run more smoothly



for the family. So pull it up while you're doing the dishes. Turn it up while you're driving in the car. Play a few of these songs each night as part of your family devotions. Praise God throughout the week, and be ready to join with all your brothers and sisters in worship on Sunday!

50+ Chili Luncheon—February 7

By Barb Littell and Iva Schlatter

50+ will be having their annual Chili Luncheon on Wednesday, February 7, at approximately 11:30am following their normal Bible study at 10:15am at the Mission campus. Bible study will be in the Faith Factory

with the lunch following in the fellowship hall. All members who are of the "golden" age are invited to attend this fun and delicious event. There is a sign-up sheet at the Mission Welcome Center. Contact

Iva Schlatter, 913-530-9264, or Barb Littell, 913-897-2292 with any questions. The cost is \$6 per person. Come and enjoy delicious chili, cornbread, and desserts!



Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 12: 9

*My grace is sufficient for you,
for my power is made perfect in weakness.*

The Quimby Organ: A Presentation

By Tom Perry



Friday, February 9, 2pm
Mission Campus

Mozart once called the organ the “king of all instruments.” The Trinity Mission campus is blessed with a magnificent

instrument of high concert quality to lead in worship. On Friday, February 9, at 2pm, Trinity organist Dr. Lara West will talk about and demonstrate the special capabilities of this wonderful instrument. The

sanctuary will be arranged for easy viewing of her presentation. Come join us in this memorable presentation. There is no cost and all are welcome!

Columbarium Proposal Passes

By Pastor Mark Schulz

Approximately one year ago, a committee was formed at Trinity to study the feasibility of having a columbarium installed, as

well as having a series of meetings to determine interest within the congregation.

At the congregational assembly on January 28 the congregation approved the construction of a columbarium in the prayer chapel at the Mission campus.

meaning dove. It has come to mean a structure with compartments, or niches, for holding cremains. Each niche at Trinity has the capacity to hold two urns, and will be sealed with an engraved stone showing the names and life dates of those inurned. A rendering of the proposed columbarium is pictured at left.

What is a columbarium?

The word comes from the Latin word “Columba”

Watch for more exciting details soon!



Do You Have a Preferred Phone Number?

By Gretchen Hollman

Here at Trinity we are always striving to communicate with you in the best methods possible. From the weekly *eNews* on Thursday mornings, to the twice monthly *Messenger* newsletter and the constantly updated website, we strive to stay in touch.

Good news! There has recently been an update to our Trinity Cloud software. Trinity is now able to capture information about what your preferred contact phone number is. Would you prefer us to call your mobile phone? Your home? Your work? Just let us know!

There are several ways to get your preference to the office:

1. Follow this link to an online form: <https://tlcms.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/66/responses/new>
2. Call Gretchen or Barb in the church office, 432-5441.
3. Email Gretchen at gretchen@tlcms.org.
4. Carrier pigeon: This method is possible, but not recommended. If using this method, please inform the office of the expected arrival time of your little buddy.



We will update your record and try to use your preferred phone number as much as possible.

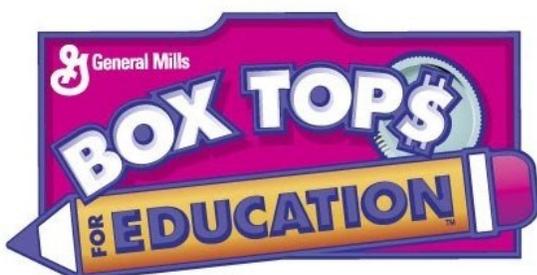
Campbell's Soup Label Change

By Ruth Hanusch

The Campbell Soup Company has ended its "Labels for Education" program. We can no longer accept or use Campbell's Soup labels. However, please continue to clip the Betty Crocker box tops for

Education. What is most urgently needed are the bar codes from any and all Best Choice products. These bar codes in groups of 1,000 earn money for Ruth to buy care products for the Kansas City homeless. Bring

these to church and put into the jar at the Welcome window at the Mission campus. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Hanusch.



bestchoiceproducts

Transfiguration Sunday Jazz Services

By Ben A. Spalding



On Sunday, February 11, at 8:30 and 11am at the Mission campus, worship will feature a jazz trio: Brandon

Draper on drums, Doug Talley on saxophone, and Ben A. Spalding on piano. They will lead us in worship utilizing elements of sacred jazz in an inimitable style: lively, prayerful, and inspiring, artfully mixing

both the traditional and modern. Jazz Services utilized on Transfiguration create a special and energetic worship environment before the more meditative tone of Lent.

Trinity Lutheran Foundation Annual Meeting

By David Boehnke

TRINITY LUTHERAN FOUNDATION

To the members of the Trinity Lutheran Foundation:

Anyone who has made a contribution to, or who has remembered the Foundation in their will or in an insurance policy, is invited to attend the annual meeting of the Foundation

Board. The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, at Trinity's Mission campus at 7pm.

The annual meeting will provide a financial report and conduct the election of directors. Please mark the date on your calendar and we hope that you are able to

attend.

In Christ,

David Boehnke

Secretary of the Foundation Board of Directors

Ladies' Luncheon—Save the Date!

By Marilyn Wilkinson



All the ladies of Trinity are invited to a Spring luncheon on Sunday, April 22, at 12:30pm in the fellowship hall at the

Mission campus. Watch for more details in the coming weeks.

“Souper Bowl of Caring” Food Drive

By Susan Schram

Nearly 100 million Americans are expected to tune in to watch the Super Bowl. Many of them will be hosting or attending parties with abundant food, friendship, and fellowship. At the same time, nearly one billion people will be hungry. Since 1990, young

people have been leading the charge and inspiring others to collect dollars and food weeks leading up to the big game. Teaming up with local partners, these groups give 100% of donations to local charities, changing the nation's largest weekend of football into the

largest weekend of caring. Please join us in remembering the hungry this Super Bowl—and bring soup or any food items for MLM. **Please bring items by Sunday, February 4.**



Stewardship Corner

By Larry Conrad

December contributions normally represent over 15% of the total annual gifts to the church. This December is no different. Generous member and guest contributions have pushed us approximately 4% above our year-to-date projections. We are grateful for your continued support and generosity of the ministries at Trinity.

The 2017 contribution giving statements were mailed out the week of January 15. Please review

your contribution statement. As we strive for excellence in recording your gifts, occasionally we do make mistakes. Please connect with Gretchen or Larry in the church office should you have any questions. Remember, you can use Trinity Cloud to view and print your giving record at any time.

In the second half of our fiscal year we will be focusing more of our attention on discipleship. We also hope to add a

Youth Family Minister to our staff soon. You are encouraged to consider how following Jesus is reflected in your financial support of his kingdom.

We know with God's help, we can do all things. Please prayerfully consider how God has blessed and enriched your lives. Thank you for your continued generosity at Trinity, as we continue to be a "Community Following Jesus."



VBS

Save the Date!

Shawnee Campus: June 25-29, 2018
 Mission Campus: July 9-13, 2018

Jesus Is the Heart of Trinity Preschool, continued



(Continued from
page 1)

save the
world.

Preschool Challenge to

You: What is
Trinity's mission?

What is the preschool's mission? (We learned about the LCMS Comfort Dogs program. Its mission is to provide mercy and compassion to those in need. Preschoolers donated to Coins for Comfort Dogs to help cover the costs of feeding and housing these important animals.)

On Thursday, we learned that Jesus is the *Heart*. We know that the presence of Jesus in our hearts is shown

by our words and actions. When we gather together in worship, we see Jesus in each other's hearts.

Preschool Challenge to

You: How is your heart – physically and spiritually? (We created a hand-printed heart that is posted on the preschool office window, and decorated our classrooms with hearts.)

On Friday, we learned that Jesus is the *Focus*. Binoculars, magnifying glasses, and even water droplets can help us focus better on small objects. God's Word, though, is how we get spiritually focused. Focusing on Jesus during National Lutheran Schools Week is good, but we need to stay focused on

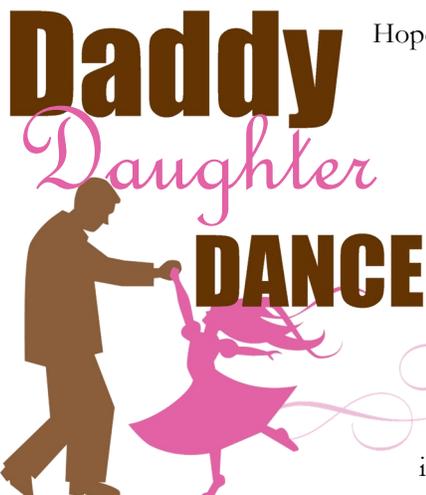
Jesus each and every day, in everything we do and say.

Preschool Challenge to You: What is life like when Jesus is out of focus? (We had fun focusing on kind deeds displayed by staff and students. Kind deeds were rewarded with a heart sticker.)

“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”
Hebrews 13:20-21

Daddy Daughter Dance at Hope

By Laura Haverkamp



Hope is hosting a Daddy Daughter Dance on Sunday, February 25. We'd like to extend an invitation to our sister congregations to join us for an evening of fellowship. The event includes a live DJ,

light snacks, photos, and craft activity. The event is split into two sessions:

- 3:30 - 5pm - Preschool through second grade
- 5:30 - 7pm - Third through eighth grade

The cost is \$25 for the first daughter and \$5 for each additional daughter. You can register online at <https://hope-daddy->

daughter-dance.echurchevents.com/ or visit <http://hopelutheran.org/lwml/events/daddy-daughter-dance/> for more details. We hope to see you for a fun evening of fellowship with your sister congregation. Questions? Contact laura@haverkamp.us.

Therefore encourage one another...

1 Thessalonians 5:11 ESV

Birthdays



- February 7** – Emily Hertel, Janice Kramer, Corey Needham, Levi Vineyard, Mark Wendlandt
- February 8** – Forrest Henslee, Hillary Henslee, Debbie Kimbell, Annette Kramer, Bob Wilson
- February 9** – Lana Hansen, Sophie Mitra, Brad Veal
- February 11** – Bill Kuehn, Kristy Lamus, Lindy Lindhorst, Addison Stewart
- February 12** – Emily Lehl, Paul Pearce, Jason Pennewell, Dean Schempp
- February 13** – Arabella McNeely, Kayla Smith, Adam Stroker
- February 14** – Joshua Gantz, Jennifer Strasser
- February 15** – Josie Barker, Susan Boehnke, Sarah Loos, Gage Prothe
- February 16** – Amber Brown, Linda Dodson, Noah Kemper
- February 17** – Andrew Fruehling, Diane Lauber, Mary Moehlenkamp, Sheryl Schlatter
- February 18** – Brian Chansky, Colton Jenkins, Sylvia Metiva, Jolynne Moore, Megan Press, Charles Schlatter, Sam Williams
- February 19** – Julie Bitter, Margie Gallaway, Denise Jarrett
- February 20** – Nathanael Adams, Jann Fowler, Mark Webster, Ken Wells, Rob Williams

Prayers



Deaths

Rita Bartlett, 1/4/18

Retirement Facility/Homebound

- Betty Becker, *Park Meadows*
- Don and Glenda Bischoff, *at home*
- Norma Brock, *at home*
- Phyllis Corthon, *Victory Hills*
- Ted Dahl, *at home*
- Walter and Donna Erickson, *at home*
- Conrad and Marjorie Fassold, *Lakeriew Village*
- Allene Gantz, *Rose Estates*
- Ona Jean Harvey, *at home*
- Lois Haubein, *Overland Park Place*
- Phyllis Henderson, *at home*
- Dick and Audrey Humes, *Santa Marta*
- Lois Klausen, *Delmar Gardens of OP*
- Jean Klemp, *McCrites Plaza Assisted Living*
- Ruth Kroenke, *at home*
- Richard Krueger, *Healthcare Resort of Shawnee Mission*
- Betty Kueker, *at home*
- Bob Mann, *Vintage Park, Gardner*
- Jerry and Lillian Mueller, *Covenant House*
- Betty Peppers, *Park Meadows*
- Garry and Joanne Schottman, *at home*
- Rose Seifferlein, *at home*
- Jerry and Mary Ellen Stephenson, *at Santa Marta*
- Jeanne Stevenson, *Kingswood*
- Helen Wendlandt, *at home*
- George Zschoche, *Aberdeen Village*

Anniversaries



- Don & Joann Daniels.....February 7 (71st)
- Marty & Dee Quick.....February 12 (41st)
- Rich & Laurie Wondersek.....February 12 (19th)
- Leo & Jean Schlesselman..... February 14 (9th)
- Joshua & Becky Peters.....February 16 (10th)
- Nate & Leah Theiss.....February 17 (14th)
- Dave & Debbie Dearth.....February 18 (46th)
- Gene & Darlene Limback.....February 20 (53rd)

Member Prayers-Mission

- Isabelle Conkling
- Don Daniels
- Tom Dempsey
- Quintyn Hendrich
- Gretchen and Bob Hollman
- Don Johnson
- Jenny Peimann
- Paulette Thornton
- Don Unger

Member Prayers-Shawnee

Elaine Conrad

Anniversaries and birthdays are listed from February 7-20. If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please contact the church office.

Trinity Lutheran Church Preschool

ENROLLMENT DATES

Would you like a tour?
Contact Jo Ann Emerson, director,
JoAnn@tlcms.org.

Enrollment is now open to anyone interested in a great preschool for their children!

Visit tlcms.org for an online enrollment form.



**Paper forms also accepted during school hours, 9am-3pm*

Trinity Lutheran Church



Phone: 913-432-5441
Preschool: 913-563-5280
Email: tlcinfo@tlcms.org

tlcms.org

Trinity Staff:

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Benjamin Vineyard, Pastor of Disciple Formation: benjamin@tlcms.org
Rhonda Synovec, Director of Family Life Ministry: rhonda@tlcms.org
Ben A. Spalding, Director of Music: bens@tlcms.org
Jo Ann Emerson, Preschool Director: joann@tlcms.org
Tom Perry, Senior Ministry Leader: tom@tlcms.org
Lara West, Organist: lara@tlcms.org
Larry Conrad, Administrator: larry@tlcms.org
Gretchen Hollman, Office Supervisor: gretchen@tlcms.org
Barb Estes, Office Support: barb@tlcms.org

Pastoral Emergency Contacts:

Pastor Mark Schulz - 913-231-9726 Pastor Phil Cook - 972-955-8801
Pastor Ben Vineyard - 913-538-1517 Pastor Ron Flentgen - 913-748-6670

[The Messenger]

Submit articles to: Gretchen@tlcms.org. The *Messenger* is printed on the first and third Thursdays of each month.

The next deadline is February 13 at noon.

Mission Campus

5601 West 62nd Street, Mission, Kansas 66202

Saturday Evening

5:30pm Communion Service

Sunday Mornings

8:30am Family-focused Worship with Communion

9:45am Praise Service with Communion

9:45am Sunday School

11am Family-focused Worship with Communion

Shawnee Campus

21320 Midland Drive, Shawnee, Kansas 66218

Sunday Mornings

8:30am Family-focused Worship with Communion

9:45am Sunday School

11am Family-focused Worship with Communion

Nursery

A professionally staffed nursery for ages six months to three years is available during most worship services and Sunday School.