

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

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The Fourth Sunday in Advent

22 December 2024

Welcome! *The Lord Comes to Visit Us in Peace.*

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Spirit of God. As the Lord dealt graciously with her and did great things for her (Luke 1:48–49), so also He manifests Himself and His glory to us in mercy and gentleness. He comes to rule His people in peace, to “shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD.” He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from lowly little Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father’s will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39–45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in the lowliness of simple water, bread and wine
We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

PJ Albrecht (nephew of Willard Albrecht and Milton Albrecht)

Jasmine Bailey-hospitalized

Chris Birnbaum-recovering

Delvin Boriack-recovering

Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)

George Hernandez-recovering

Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)

Pastor Joshua Knippa, Holy Cross, Nederland-recovering

Billy Krause-recovering

Mike Maass-recovering

Charles Malke-recovering (brother of Carol Jean Noack and Douglas Malke)

Douglas Malke-recovering

Ruben Melcher-recovering (uncle of James, Johnny, Larry & Leroy Kalbas))

Chris Miertschin-surgery

Russell Richards-recovering

Zelda Richards-recovering

Lucille Schatte

Mildred Wachsmann-recovering (Mother of Peggy Wachsmann)

Laverne Weiser-recovering

Wesley Yurk-recovering

Irene Zoch-recovering (mother of Donnie Zoch)

Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

Those fighting cancer including:

Randy Belz (uncle of Amanda Carter)

Teresita Brodrick (aunt of David Wittman)

Vernon Bryant (friend of Arthur & Dianna Noack)

Russell Cleghorn (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Brandon Cleland (brother of Sonya Schautschick)

Ginger Clifford (sister of Nancy Kasper)

Sherri Fritsche

Ian Hailes (great-nephew of Marian Wiederhold and

Stephen Kasper)

Christie Hall (friend of Mark Arldt)

Dana Herzog (niece of Becky Wiese)

Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

Devin Jackson (brother-in-law of Chris and Michelle Birnbaum)

Cheryl Jurk (friend of Stephen & Dorothy Schautschick)

Brenda Karisch (friend of Bonnie Wenke family)

Steven Kelly (cousin of Jessica Gruetzner, brother-in-law of Christi Bradford)

Bethany Lara (daughter of Kathy Gersch)

Heather Lilly (granddaughter of Irene Noack)

Vic Lohberg

Ruby Maass (mother of Linda Schonhoeft)

Cannon Martin (nephew of Christopher Taylor)

Gladys Mathena (sister of Frances Miertschin and Marilyn Miertschin)

Rhonda Mitschke (friend of Christi Fritsche)

Keith Muessel (brother of Chris Miertschin)

Walter Rehle (friend of the Arldt's from Germany)

Carol Sander

Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Karen Symm (sister of Michael Symm)

Courtney Wagner (cousin of Mark Gruetzner)

Jordan Weidemann (friend of Byron Kalbas)

Judy Westbrook (mother of Heather Krause)

Those serving in the Armed Forces including:

Steven Cutlip (brother of Stephanie Symm), Fort Bliss, El Paso

Coy Hunt (son of Shannon & Christine Hunt) Ft. Drum, New York

Randall Weise (grandson of Bernice Doebbler) Ft.

Huachuca, Arizona

Dylan Robbins (cousin of Michelle Birnbaum) Jacksonville, NC

Aron Marak (nephew of Mike and Susie Maass) Fr. Bragg, North Carolina

Kyler Brown (friend of Dorthy Schautschick) U.S. Navy- Bahrain

Benjamin Symm-Completed Basic Training

Seasonal Weather

Prayer Requests are always welcome. To have someone included in our Sunday morning prayers either call the church office through the week or write out the request and give it to pastor on Sunday morning.

The Order of Service– Worship Folder

- ✝ **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God.
- ✝ **Christmas Eve Service.** Join us on Tuesday, December 24th at 6:00 p.m. for our Children’s Christmas Eve Service. The children have been working hard on learning their parts and rehearsing their songs and are ready to share with us the story of the Savior’s birth.
- ✝ **Christmas Day Service.** Christmas Day Service will be held on Wednesday, December 25th beginning at 9:00 a.m. and will be broadcast on KBUK Radio (104.9 FM) from LaGrange. Our thanks to Paige Tractors for sponsoring this broadcast.
- ✝ **Christmas Trees.** The Christmas Trees are donated in memory of Hattie Mutschink and Jack Jones by the Jones family.
- ✝ **Thank You.** Thank you to the LAF for setting up and decorating the Christmas trees, and to the LYF for setting up the manger scene in front of the church.
- ✝ **Thank you** to all who purchased poinsettias and the ladies of the LWML for beautifying the sanctuary by arranging the Poinsettias. If you would like, you may leave your poinsettias in the Church until January 1, 2024, otherwise you may pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Day Service and check your name off the list.
- ✝ **The Serbin LWML** says a big THANK YOU to everyone who donated clothes for the recent Orphan Grain Train pickup! What a great show of support for this mission!
- ✝ **Annual Report.** Reports from various committees and organizations for our congregation’s annual report are asked to be completed and turned in to the church office by January 20th.
- ✝ **2025 Offering Envelopes.** The **2025** adult and children offering envelopes are available to be picked up in the church office meeting room. **Please continue to use the 2024 envelopes until the end of the year and then discard**, since offering envelope numbers often change from year to year. If you wish to give an offering to the 2024 church year, please give this before the New Year’s Day service. If you failed to receive your 2025 envelopes or have any questions, please contact the church office.
- ✝ **PTLS Chili Supper & Live Auction:** SAVE THE DATE! The Annual Chili Supper & Live Auction is scheduled for **Sunday, February 2nd** at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Cook-Off judging and Silent Auction (4-5:30pm), Live Auction (5:30pm), Chili/Hot Dog Supper (5-7pm). All School & ECC children will be selling tickets from January 8, 2025, thru January 22, 2025, or you can purchase by calling the school office.
- ✝ Attention Chili Cookers! Enter your family recipe for a chance to win at our **4th Annual Chili Cook-Off!** Please contact Kristy Hentschel (979)220-9474 for details and registration.
- ✝ **Be a Cook-Off Sponsor!** We are accepting sponsorships – individuals or businesses – your name will be displayed with the opportunity to provide marketing materials in the cook-off packets. The sponsorship levels can be found on the School Website, or you can contact the school office or Kristy Hentschel.
- ✝ **LWML.** The LWML is again selling Christmas Cards. They are \$4/box. Cards are available in the church office or contact Doris Fritsche at 979-

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, December 29th, “**No Getting Better Than This**”. Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies. The Good Life-what is it? Pastor Chad Lakies says life is truly good when it’s life the way God meant it to be. (Colossians 3:12-17). Hear *The Lutheran Hour* each Sunday on station KBUK-FM 104.9 at 7:00 a.m. or on station KANJ-FM 91.5 at 12:30 p.m. or go to lhm.org for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live.

Life Through the Church Year:

December 22 – Advent IV

Whether the hamlet of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) or gestating babies (Luke 1:41-44), the God of Christmas loves to elevate what seems insignificant. Indeed, the heart of the Gospel consists in exalting those of humble estate (Luke 1:52)). Rejoicing in the Lord who creates, redeems, and calls regardless of size, skills, or circumstances, the sanctity of life delights to declare nothing less!

Serving today: Elders– David Fritsche and Gary Oltmann
Organist- Susan Michael
Acolytes- Jagger Garner and Lane Gersch
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Mason Becker **Assistant-** Carson Becker
Ushers- Jason Becker, Randy Becker, Brandon Burgdorf,
Mike Krause, Ethan Miertschin, Rex Perry,
Brad Schmidt, Tim Symm
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Glen Albrecht
Ty Kasper, Tommy Miertschin, Payton Oltmann

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Song Service – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School Teachers Meeting – 10:15 a.m.
Mon – Fri No School – Christmas Vacation
Tues - Wed ECC Closed – Christmas Vacation
Tuesday **Christmas Eve Worship Service – 6:00 p.m.**
Acolytes: Trenton Grage and Alice Gurka
Wednesday **English/German Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.**
Acolytes: Lukas Iselt and Cole Kalbas
Greeter: Debra Hartfield
Thursday Board of Elders Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Next Sunday **Song Service – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Acolytes: Emmalynn Knott and Kalisa Oltmann
Greeter: Tammy Hartfield

Birthdays: Today – Scott Jones, John Weiser; 23rd – Jill Jackson, Daniel Schulze; 24th – Krista Jatzlau, Vic Lohberg; 25th – Michelle Gonzales Ruby Schulze; 26th – Colton Early, Ludwig Krause; 27th – Luke Adair, Carrie Gonzales; 28th – Taylor Glass, Marcia Wenke. God’s Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Midweek Advent (12/11/2024)- 120, Morning Worship- 284, Communion- 143, Sunday School- 37, Banner Classes: Grade 5, Offering- \$40.00.

Offering Last Week: \$71,168.76

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$51,647.01	Mission	\$354.00
Advent	\$2,188.00	Lutheran Hour	\$25.00
Thrivent Choie	\$58.00	Mission Total	\$379.00
Sunday School	\$40.00	Savings/Other:	
Lunch Room	\$1,470.00	School Fund	\$50.00
ECC Operating	\$4,127.25	Cemetery Fund	\$200.00
Tuition	\$6,839.50	Building Fund	\$2,070.00
Received 12/15/2024	\$66,369.76	Bus Replacement Fund	\$375.00
		Tuition Assistance Fund	\$1,725.00
Est. needed per week	\$29,635.00	Savings/Other Total	\$4,420.00
Received MTD	\$129,584.98		
Est. needed per month	\$128,417.00	Total	\$71,168.76

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Judy Kalbas by Wilbert & Carol Jean Noack - \$30.00; by Kevin & Sherri Coffman - \$25.00; by Robin & Sherri Buscha - \$25.00; by Larry & Jennfer Teinert - \$20.00; by Dennis & Shirley Oltmann - \$20.00; by Brad & Ashley Schmidt - \$50.00; by Stephen & Nancy Kasper - \$50.00; by M/M Kyle Kasper & Kaden - \$100.00; by M/M Martin Werchan - \$100.00; by Mary Ann & Delbert Prellop - \$50.00; by Robert & Joyce Hinze - \$50.00; by Eldor & Lori Becker - \$20.00; by Frances Mutscher - \$25.00; by M/M Doug Jatzlau - \$50.00; by Janiece Becker - \$25.00; by Carl Mertink, Jr. - \$25.00; by Elaine Krause - \$25.00; by Maruice & Debbie Pitts - \$25.00; by Raymond & Lynette Kipp - \$25.00; by Gladys Padgett - \$50.00; by Ronnie & Linda Oltmann - \$50.00; by Keith & Heidi Exner - \$100.00; by Randy & Janice Becker - \$40.00; by Joseph & Kalen Kalbas (for Library) - \$500.00. In memory of David Michael by Bill & Linda Carmean - \$50.00. In memory of Ernie Melcher by James, Kathy & Byron Kalbas - \$100.00. In memory of Dora Durrenberger by Mary Ann & Delbert Prellop - \$25.00; by Lucille Lynette & Darlene Schatte - \$20.00; by Robert & Brenda Muniz - \$50.00. In memory of Dora Durrenberger and Judy Kalbas by Linda Jones - \$50.00. In memory of Tamshaw Becker by Wayne Becker & Dylan Cavaliere - \$300.00. **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Lucille & Darlene Schatte - \$25.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by M/M Larry Schatte - \$50.00. **Building:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Jack & Marian Wiederhold - \$50.00; by Wayne Becker - \$20.00. **Cemetery Fund:** In memory of Tamshaw Becker by Wayne Becker & Dylan Cavaliere - \$200.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Carolyn Buscha by Robin & Sherri Buscha - \$40.00. In memory of Judy Kalbas by David & Karen Schmidt - \$25.00. **Tuition Assistance Fund:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Myron & Karen Siegmunk - \$25.00; by Rodney & Melanie Meyer - \$50.00; by Lynette Schatte - \$100.00; by Callan & Linda Oltmann - \$100.00; by M/M Shelbey Barnett & family - \$100.00; by Kenneth & Barbara Robinson - \$100.00; by Paul, Tina, Max & Macy Sommerfield - \$50.00; by M/M Sherwin Siegmund - \$50.00; by M/M Curtis Oltmann & family - \$250.00; by Doris Fritsche - \$20.00; by M/M Keith Oltmann & Family - \$50.00; by M/M John Kalbas - \$300.00; by Larry & Elaine Weiser - \$30.00; by Joseph & Kalen Kalbas - \$500.00.



Merry Christmas!!

Faith Lutheran High School wishes you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! We pray God would shower blessings upon you this holiday season and in the year ahead! Thank you for being a blessing to FLHS!

Seeking a German Teacher

FLHS rejoices with the Obersat family as they have accepted a new call to serve in Wyoming, however, this leaves Faith without a German teacher following Christmas break. Faith Lutheran High School is actively seeking a part-time German teacher for the spring semester of 2025. All interested candidates are encouraged to call to learn more about this position. Please reach out to Mrs. Kueck at (979) 242-2889. If you have the time and talents, please consider sharing your gifts with our students. Thank you!

Raffle Items

The Spring Raffle is just around the corner. The Board of Directors is currently looking for valuable items or monetary donations to be used in the raffle. Please contact Nikki Kueck if you have something to donate! Thank you!

End of Year Giving

In Proverbs 2:6, God's Word promises: "The LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding." Faith Lutheran High School exists to instill Christ's wisdom in His Word to prepare faithful leaders for tomorrow. Thank you for being a part of this mission through your prayers and financial support. Please prayerfully consider how you can give to further Lutheran education in our area. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

Thank you!

Everyone at FLHS is blessed by each gift that we receive from our supporters. It's not about the size of the gift, but the cheerful attitude that gives thanks to God (2 Corinthians 9:7). Whether your gift seems big or small, it is greatly appreciated and makes a bigger impact than you know!