

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

Church 366-9650
School 366-9650 ECC 366-9650
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The Second Sunday in Advent

8 December 2024

Welcome! *The Preaching of Repentance Prepares Us for the Coming of the Lord.* The preaching and Baptism “of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Luke 3:3) prepare us for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The historic work of John the Baptist was completed with the first advent of our Lord Jesus in the flesh, but the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of Law and Gospel and in Holy Baptism. Through His messengers, the Lord calls people of all nations to “see the salvation of God” (Luke 3:6). Our haughtiness is removed and our mountains of pride are brought low, but the Lord humbles us in order to exalt us in His mercy. As the Lord has begun this good work of repentance in us, so also does He perfect it by His Word and Holy Spirit, and He “will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:6). He purifies us to be His priestly people, precious in His sight and abounding in faith and love, so that we offer our very lives in righteousness to the Lord (Mal. 3:3-4). 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)

Chris Birnbaum-recovering

Delvin Boriack-surgery

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

Ernie Melcher-recovering (Aunt of James Kalbas)

Chris Miertschin-surgery

Russell Richards-recovering

Zelda Richards-recovering

Lucille Schatte

Mildred Wachsmann-recovering (Mother of Peggy Wachsmann)

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 Fritshce

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 Wesbrook (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 Dorothy Schautschick) U.S. Navy-

Those who mourn:

The family of Judy Kalbas

The family of Dora Durrenberger

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— 184 of the hymnal

The Hymns: 349, 344, 781 v. 1&2, 508, 345

Sermon Text: Malachi 3:1-7b

The Sermon: “A Message Shared”

Adult Choir Anthem: ♪ “O Come Redeemer”

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God to commemorate the December 1845 arrival of the Wends in Galveston, Texas and the 1871 dedication of St. Paul Lutheran stone church building,
- † **We express our sympathy** to the family of Judy Kalbas. She fell asleep in Jesus, Tuesday, December 3, 2024. Funeral services for Mrs. Kalbas will be held here at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Monday, December 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. May the Lord comfort the family with His word of promise.
- † **We express our sympathy** to the family of Dora Durrenberger. She fell asleep in Jesus, Wednesday, December 4, 2024. Funeral services for Mrs. Durrenberger were held here at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 7, 2024 May the Lord comfort the family with His word of promise.
- † **Mission Goal.** In the Voters Meeting held on October 8, 2023 the Voters set our 2024 Mission goal at \$37,500.00. To date our Mission contributions are at \$37,349.00. We are **\$151.00** away from meeting our 2024 goal
- † **Voters Meeting.** The December Voters Meeting will be held this evening at 7:00 p.m. The agenda is included in the bulletin this morning. All voting members are encouraged to attend
- † **Sunday School Teacher.** We are in need of a Sunday School Teacher and Helper for Nursery I and II. Please contact Mike Symm or the church office.
- † **Serbin LWML** is asking for donations for the Orphan Grain Train to distribute to needy families in the US and around the world. Specifically, OGT is requesting new and/or gently used **socks, undies, and stuffed animals** for boys and girls through the month of December. Please bring any of these items to the church office meeting room by December 9th. If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy Schautschick or Melodi Oltmann.
- † **Scrip Program.** Getting ready to do your holiday shopping, or giving gift cards as gifts? You can do it all with a Scrip Card. Order them through the Church’s Scrip Program. Orders can be placed through the Church Office or you can go online and order your cards.
- † **Wreaths Across America.** The Wreath Laying Ceremony will take place on Saturday, December 14th at 9:00 a.m., at the cemetery.
- † **The LWML** is selling Poinsettias for \$10.00 each to be used to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. To order please fill out the order form and return it to the Church Office or put it in the collection plate. Order forms are available from the ushers this morning. Orders are due by Monday, December 16th. **Please note that due to availability no orders will be accepted after December 16th.** If you need further information, please contact Dorothy Schautschick at 716-0094.
- † **Aluminum Cans:** Need somewhere to take your aluminum cans? There is a drop-off trailer by the pasture gate for anyone who would like to drop off their aluminum cans to be recycled. All money raised from the recycled cans will go to the Building Fund. We sold the cans this past week and raised another \$80.80. for the Building Fund. Total given to the Restoration/Building fund is \$4,082.55.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, December 15th, “**Sorrow Welcomed Here**”. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The church welcomes people, but does it also welcome their problems? Dr. Michael Zeigler says the church should be a place that makes room for both joy and sorrow. (Zephaniah 3:14-20). 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 8 – Advent 1I

The people of Christ do not sit still or stay silent. We shout, sing, praise, and bless (Psalm 66:1-2, 8). We get to testify after the fashion of the Baptist and loud like the Lord who has opened our lips. May we raise our Gospel-motivated voice For Life to encourage and advocate for those vulnerable to the deception of using death as a solution.

Serving today: Elders– David Fritsche and Gary Oltmann
Organist- Jack Wiederhold
Acolytes- Whitlee Smolik and Max Sommerfield
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
Pablo Rodriguez, Dan Marak, Brooks Kasper

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
4-H Meeting – 3:00 p.m.
Voters Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Monday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.

Tuesday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Circuit Council Meeting @ Grace, Smithville

Wednesday School Chapel – 8:30 a.m.
Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.
Advent Worship Service – 7:00 p.m.
Acolytes: Kenzie Stewart and Dylan Arldt
Greeter: Nancy Beckcom
Adult Choir – 7:45 p.m.

Thursday Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.

Friday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.

Saturday Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony– 9:00 a.m.

Next Sunday **Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Acolytes: Jasmine Bailey and Nathen Barnett
Greeter: Dianna Noack
LYF Meeting & Social – 2:00 p.m.

Birthdays: Today – Michelle Fritsche, Cherie Oltmann; 9th – Justin Ender, Judith Pike, Jeffrey Robertson, Raegan Zoch; 11th – Emily Eindorf, Brooke Lehmann, Gloria Smith; 12th – Daniel Engler, Lisa Schmidt, Jenna Wenke; 13th – Christina Fridenberg, Lillian Kunkel, Ashley Schmidt; 14th – Samantha Glass, Gary Kubsch, Colby Oltmann.
God’s Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Thanksgiving Worship Service- 170, Morning Worship- 228, Communion- 123, Bible Class- 16; Sunday School- 21, Visitors- 1, Offering- \$23.65.

Offering Last Week: \$29,465.52

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|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Home: | | Mission: | |
| General | \$18,758.85 | Mission | \$1,509.00 |
| Thanksgiving | \$6,504.00 | Mission Total | \$1,509.00 |
| Sunday School | \$23.65 | Savings/Other: | |
| Lunch Room | \$32.97 | Building Fund | \$1,080.80 |
| ECC Operating | \$1,556.25 | Savings/Other Total | \$1,080.80 |
| Received 12/1/2024 | \$26,875.72 | Total | \$29,465.52 |
| Est. needed per week | \$29,635.00 | | |
| Received MTD | \$26,875.72 | | |
| Est. needed per month | \$128,417.00 | | |

MEMORIALS: Texas Wendish Heritage Society: In memory of Billy Morgan by Milton & Geraldine Albrecht - \$25.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Colbey Wright by Bobby & Carolyn Oltmann - \$50.00, by Arthur & Dianna Noack - \$50.00.

2024 Advent/Christmas Schedule

| Service | Day | Date | Time | Detail | Offering |
|---------------------------|-------|---------|-----------|--------------------|---|
| Advent Services | Wed. | Dec. 11 | 7:00 p.m. | | General |
| Candlelight Carol Service | Wed. | Dec. 18 | 7:00 p.m. | | General |
| Song Service | Sun. | Dec. 22 | 8:30 a.m. | | General |
| Christmas Eve | Tues. | Dec. 24 | 6:00 p.m. | | ½ Lutheran Braille Workers & ½ Bus Fund |
| Christmas Day | Wed. | Dec. 25 | 9:00 a.m. | English/ German | ½ LSS & ½ LBT |
| New Year's Eve | Tues. | Dec. 31 | 7:00 p.m. | | General |
| New Year's Day | Wed. | Jan. 1 | 9:00 a.m. | Communion | General |



“Faith at Christmas” Program

FLHS students will present a Christmas concert, “Faith at Christmas,” on Tuesday, December 10th at 7:00 pm at FLHS. Program will include a collection of choir pieces, handbell pieces, hymns, scripture readings and more. Refreshments will be served following the program. Please join us!!!

*This event will also be live streamed on Facebook, for those who would prefer to view the sounds of Christmas from home.

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!

Oktoberfest

Thank you to everyone who participated in any way with this year's Oktoberfest event. This year's event raised about \$18,000 for FLHS! Praise the Lord! Next year's date is Saturday, October 25, 2025.

Sapientia Infiniti (infinite wisdom)

Oktoberfest will be adding a new category to our Battle of the Brews/Vines. Spend this year preparing an infinity bottle* of whiskey for yourself at home. Please submit a pint or half-pint of this bottle for the FLHS Oktoberfest 2025. Submissions will be judged, by our judges and the attendees, in separate categories.

* Infinity Bottle rules: start with a clean, empty bottle. Throughout the year, add a pour of any size from the whiskeys you've enjoyed this year. KEEP NO RECORD! The infinity bottle is intended to be unique to you and unrepeatable.