

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



Rev. John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

Church 366-9650
School 366-9650
Rev. S. 716-7632

ECC 366-9650

Church Office E-mail st.paulserbin@verizon.net
Church Address: 1572 CR 211 Giddings, TX 78942

The Second Sunday after Christmas

4 January 2026

Welcome! The Triune God Is Manifested and Reveals Himself to Us in Holy Baptism. The Baptism of our Lord is an “epiphany” of the one true God in the flesh and blood of Jesus. He is the chosen servant of the Lord, anointed with the Spirit for the rescue of God’s people to “bring forth justice to the nations” (Is. 42:1). Thus, He makes all things new, and He is given “as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations” (Is. 42:6). In the waters of the Jordan, He takes His place with sinners and takes all the sins of the world upon Himself. He undergoes the Baptism of repentance in order to “fulfill all righteousness” for us (Matt. 3:15). He submits Himself to the curse of sin and death in order to redeem us. We are baptized with a Baptism like His, thereby dying and rising with Him, so that “we will also live with him” (Rom. 6:8). Indeed, all of us who are baptized into Christ Jesus are anointed with His Spirit and named by His Father as beloved and well-pleasing sons and daughters.

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Ralph Bamsch

Chris Birnbaum-recovering

Troy Bise-recovering

MaKayla Blackman-recovering (granddaughter of Billy Krause)

Monroe Brade (uncle of James, Johnny, Larry & Leroy Kalbas)

Anna Boriack-recovering (daughter-in-of Delvin & Judy Boriack)

Ginger Clifford-recovering (sister of Nancy Kasper)

Carl Dittmar-recovering (father of Jennifer Smith)

Ken Gage-hospitalized (father of Patrice Caster)

Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)

David Hempel-recovering

Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)

Nancy Kasper-recovering

Billy Krause-recovering

Mary Ann McCombs-recovering

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

Stephen Mersiovsky-recovering (son of Stephen Mersiovsky)

Chris Miertschin-recovering

Gene Namken-recovering (brother of Linda Oltmann)

David Wachsmann (cousin of Billy Krause)

Alton Weiser-recovering

John Boy Weiser-recovering

Ruby Weiser-recovering

Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

Those fighting cancer including:

Teresita Brodrick (aunt of David Wittman)

Vernon Bryant (friend of Arthur & Dianna Noack)

Brandon Cleland (brother of Sonya Schautschick)

Ralph & Debbie Domel (sister & brother-in-law of Mary Jatzlau)

John Enrique (nephew of Dorothy Schautschick)

Dana Herzog (niece of Becky Weise)

Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

Darlene Jackson (friend of Bobbi Krause)

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)

Jensyn Lesikar (nephew of Kasey Rosales)

Ruby Maass (mother of Linda Schonhoeft)

Suzanne Mogonye-recovering (mother of Lindsey Hansen)

Kelli Meinholt (sister of Carie Oltmann)

Rhonda Mitschke (friend of Christi Fritsche)

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

Carol Sander

Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Karen Symm (sister of Michael Symm)

Christopher Taylor

Tina Warren (mother of Jason Heuermann)

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

Dylan Robbins (cousin of Michelle Birnbaum) Jacksonville, North Carolina

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

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

Benjamin Symm-Training Camp Johnson, North Carolina

Jacob Droegemueller Ft. Eisenhower, Georgia

Brittany Louden (daughter of Bryan and Antoinette Winkles) Navy, stationed in Florida

Kolton Alen (nephew of Mike & Susie Maass) Army, stationed at Ft. Sill, Lawton, OK

Those who mourn:

The family of David Mohr (grandfather of Avery, Harper, Kayla, and Jacob Moore, students at St. Paul)

The family of Nora Bamsch (niece of Marvin & Charlyn Matthijetz)

Rain

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— Page 184 of the hymnal

The Hymns: 398, 578, 781 v. 1&2, 411, 605

Sermon Text: “What a Difference”

The Sermon: **“Matthew 3:13-17”**

Adult Choir Anthem: **♪“Beautiful Savior”**

† **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Carie Oltmann’s birthday by Curtis Oltmann Family.

† **Scholarship Committee Meeting.** The Scholarship Committee will meet this morning after Bible Class at 10:15 a.m. in the church office meeting room.

† **Voters Meeting.** The January 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.

† **HB Stand Griddle.** If anyone would like to purchase the old griddle in the HB Stand, please contact Mike Becker or call the church office.

† **2026 Board of Elder’s Assignments:**

Gary Oltman – Chairman – A-F

David Fritsche – Secretary – S

Timothy Weise – G-Ke

Keith Oltmann – Kf-Mie

Mark Jones – Mit-R

Monroe Schatte, Jr. - Z

† **2026 Board of Trustee Assignments:**

Michael Becker - Chairman – Church

Curtis Krause – Secretary - Busses

Conner Stewart – Parsonage/Picnic Grounds

Wes Burgdorf – Daycare

Josh DroegeMueller – School

Scott Jones - Land

† **2026 Board of Christian Education**

Joseph Kalbas – Chairman

Paul Sommerfield - Secretary

John Grange

Kyle Jenke

Dan Marak

Clint Oltmann

† **South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department:** The annual membership meeting and election of officers of the South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department is scheduled for Sunday, January 18th at the fire station in Northrup. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Meeting at 6:00 p.m. All area residents are encouraged to attend. Refreshments and a meal will be provided.

† **St. Paul Lutheran School** is seeking a part-time Head Cook for the 2026–2027 school year. Pay is dependent on experience. Interested applicants should send a resume to kschattet@stpaulserbinschool.org.

† **St. Paul Lutheran School** is seeking a part-time PE Teacher for the Spring semester. Pay is dependent on experience. Interested applicants should send a resume to kschattet@stpaulserbinschool.org

† **Sunday School Help.** We are looking for Sunday School Teachers for grades 1 & 2, grades 3 & 4, and a helper for kindergarten. Please consider donating your time and talents in service to the Lord and join our Sunday School team.

† **The Wendish Society** will have its annual Scholarship Fundraiser Drive-Thru meal on Sunday, January 25th at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. This year, the menu will again be grilled pork steaks, noodles, corn, green beans and pickles along with a bowl of Wendish Bird Wedding Soup. The cost is \$15 (payment will be taken the day of pick up). Reserve your plates by Wednesday, January 21st. Tickets may be reserved by calling the museum at 979-366-2441 or emailing Museum@TexasWendish.org. Drive thru/to-go only. Pick up 10:00 am-12:00pm at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Proceeds benefit the TWHS Scholarship Program. In 2025 there were twenty-five Texas Wendish Heritage Scholarship recipients totaling \$23,000 being awarded! We thank you for supporting our Wendish students!

- † **The Mt. Calvary Men's Club** will be selling barbecue racks of pork ribs on Sunday, Feb. 8 (Super Bowl Sunday). The racks will be \$25 per rack pre-sale tickets only. Only 250 tickets will be sold. Ribs can be picked-up at the Mt. Calvary BBQ pits across from the church from 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. See Jason Lehmann after church or contact Milton Bamsch at (979) 966-3881 for tickets.
- † **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 Monday, February 2nd.
- † **Mesquite wood needed** – if you have a **grove** of mesquite trees that would be available to cut and used for the church picnic, please contact Troy Menzel (979-412-0341) or Russell Kappler (979-540-0741). Having multiple trees for a crew to go through would be preferable.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, January 18th, **“Outstanding Universal Value”**. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The Christian faith has the power to make us act better. But that's not the goal. 1 Corinthians 1:18-19. 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 Thoughts in the Church Year:

January 11-Baptism of our Lord

Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15), that all whom God created and gave breath to (Isaiah 42:5) might be baptized into His death and resurrection and have everlasting life (Romans 6:4-5). Living in that new life in Christ and dying to sin (Romans 6:8) means that we are to cherish all life the way God does, caring about our neighbor's physical life and well-being, as well as their everlasting life in Christ,

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today	Worship Service – 8:30 a.m. Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Scholarship Meeting – 10:15 a.m. Voters Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Monday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Tuesday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m. Circuit Meeting @ Holy Cross, Warda – 9:00 a.m. PTLS Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	School Chapel – 8:30 a.m. Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m. 4-H Meeting – 6:30 p.m. LWML Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.
Friday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Next Sunday	Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m. Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Acolytes: Max Sommerfield and Nathen Barnett Greeter: Lisa Schmidt SLCVFD Annual Meeting

Birthdays: Today – Michelle Weiser; 12th – Zachary Weise; 13th – Anita Andrews, Bryan Gersch, Lillianne Gonzeles, Mary Jatzlau, Karen Schmidt; 14th – Kaitlyn Behrend; 15th – John Burgdorf; 16th – Daylon Knott, Landon Menzel, Beckey Weise; 17th – Haley Marak. God's Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: New Year's Eve- 118, New Year's Day-110, Communion- 44, Morning Worship- 250, Communion- 133, Bible Class- 27; Sunday School- 20, Banner Classes: Grade 6, Offering- \$21.00.

Offering Last Week: \$49,532.22

Home:

		Mission:	
General	\$20,928.55	Mission	\$647.00
New Year's Eve	\$5,610.00	Lutheran Hour	\$50.00
New Year's Day	\$2,630.00	Mission Total	\$697.00
Sunday School	\$21.00	Savings/Other:	
Lunch Room	\$646.00	School Fund	\$100.00
ECC Operating	\$10,234.67	Building Fund	\$1,570.00
Tuition	\$7,065.00	Cemetery Fund	\$30.00
Received 1/42026	\$47,135.22	Savings/Other Total	\$1,700.00
Est. needed per week	\$33,625.00	Total	\$49,532.22
Received MTD	\$47,135.22		
Est. needed per month	\$145,708.00		

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Monroe Schatte, Sr. by Lynette Schatte - \$500.00. In memory of Phillip Procell, Carol Jurk and Hildegard Krause by Martin & Jeannie Werchan - \$150.00. In memory of Carol Wenke and Hildegard Krause by Robert & Joyce Hinze - \$60.00. In memory of Hildegard Krause by Janiece Becker - \$25.00; by Jack & Marian Wiederhold; by Janet Oltmann - \$25.00; by Carl H. Mertink, Jr. - \$25.00; by Calvin & Ina Mitschke - \$100.00; by Lynette Wiederhold - \$30.00; by David & Karen Schmidt - \$20.00; by Michael & Teresa Krause - \$50.00; by Allen & Mildred Perry - \$30.00; by Susan Michael - \$50.00. **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Hildegard Krause by Leonard & Lucy Mitschke - \$50.00. **LWML:** In memory of Hildegard Krause by Nancy Beckom - \$40.00. **ECC Operating:** In memory of Hildegard Krause by Arthur & Dianna Noack - \$75.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Hildegard Krause by Arthur & LaVerne Urban - \$100.00. **Building:** In memory of Hildegard Krause by Mary Ann & Delbert Prelop - \$30.00; by Linda Jones - \$25.00; by Doug & Mary Jatzlau - \$50.00; by Wilbert & Carol Jean Noack - \$30.00; by Boykie & Sherry Murphy - \$50.00; by Becky & Dennis Nelll, Susan & Ken Ludwig and Kay Brown - 100.00; by Rev. & Mrs. David Mumm - \$20.00; by M/M John Kalbas - \$100.00; by Frances Mutschler - \$25.00; by Dennis & Elaine Boettcher - \$50.00; by Elaine Krause - \$40.00; by Louise Grimm - \$50.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Hildegard Krause by Bobby & Carolyn Oltmann - \$40.00; by M/M Delvin Boriack - \$20.00.

Serving today: **Elders**– David Fritsche and Gary Oltmann

Organist– Susan Michael

Acolytes– Nicholas Taylor and Dylan Arldt

Head Ushers– Donald Becker

Captain– Craig Oltmann **Assistant**– Payton Oltmann

Ushers– Bradley Albrecht, Lane Gersch, Cole Kalbas, Seth Kalbas, Nathan Michael, Kaleb Oltmann, Chase Oltmann, Curtis Oltmann, Gary Oltmann, Grant Oltmann

Counting and Posting offering this week:

Chairman– Mason Becker

Clay Mertink, Nathan Michael, Carson Becker
