

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor  
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

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School 366-9650    ECC 366-9650  
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## The Baptism of Our Lord

12 January 2025

**Welcome! *The Triune God Opens Heaven to You in Holy Baptism.*** The Baptism of our Lord is an “Epiphany” of the one true God in the flesh and blood of Jesus Christ. In divine mercy, He takes His place with sinners and takes their sin upon Himself. “When all the people were baptized,” Jesus submitted Himself to a Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Luke 3:21). He had no sins of His own, but He took the sins of the world upon Himself and so was baptized into His own death. Therefore, “when you pass through the waters,” He is with you (Is. 43:2). He created you for His glory, and He has redeemed you with His blood, that you may be His own and live with Him in His kingdom (Is. 43:1, 7). As you are baptized with a Baptism like His, so also are you united with Him in His death and resurrection that you “might walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4). For all who are baptized into Christ Jesus receive His anointing of the Holy Spirit and are named by His Father as beloved and well-pleasing sons and daughters.

We invite you all to worship with us again.

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### In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

- Chris Birnbaum-recovering*
- Delvin Boriack-recovering*
- Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)*
- Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)*
- Pastor Joshua Knippa, Holy Cross, Nederland-recovering*
- Billy Krause-recovering*
- Vic Lohberg-medical testing*
- 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-recovering*
- Russell Richards-recovering*
- Zelda Richards-recovering*
- Lucille Schatte*
- Glenn Teinert-recovering*
- 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*
- 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)*
- 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*

#### Those who mourn:

- The family of Janelle Mogonye (grandmother of Lindsey Hansen)*

#### 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**— Page 184 of the hymnal

The Hymns: 728, 406, 781 v. 1&2, 735, 601

Sermon Text: Luke 3:15-22

The Sermon: **“What is Your Identity?”**

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

✠ **The Altar Stand flowers** are placed to the glory of God from the Jasmine Bailey funeral by her family

✠ **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

✠ **November Financial Statements** are available from the ushers this morning.

✠ **2024 Board of Trustee Assignments:**

Michael Becker – Church

Conner Stewart – Parsonage/Picnic Grounds

Curtis Oltmann – Chairman - Land

Byron Kalbas – Secretary - School

Curtis Krause – Buses

Wes Burgdorf - Daycare

✠ **2024 Board of Christian Education**

John Grange – Chairman

Kyle Jenke – Secretary

Jarrett Bise

Craig Oltmann

Paul Sommerfield

Joseph Kalbas

✠ **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 19<sup>st</sup> 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 chili supper will be provided.

✠ **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 20<sup>th</sup>.

✠ **2025 Offering Envelopes.** There are still some 2025 offering envelopes in the church office meeting room. If you have not picked up your 2024 envelopes, please do so.

✠ **The Scholarship Committee** will meet on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:15a.m. following Sunday School and Bible Class.

✠ **The Wendish Society** will have its annual Scholarship Fundraiser Drive-Thru meal on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 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. Pre-sale only by Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. Advance tickets may be reserved by calling the museum at 979-366-2441 or emailing [Museum@TexasWendish.org](mailto:Museum@TexasWendish.org). Tickets may be purchased from a museum staff member. Drive thru/to-go only. Pick up 10:00 am-12:30pm at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Proceeds benefit the TWHS Scholarship Program. In 2024 there were twenty four Texas Wendish Heritage Scholarship recipients totaling \$21,000 being awarded! We thank you for supporting our Wendish students!

✠ **PTLS Chili Supper & Live Auction:** The Annual Chili Supper & Live Auction is scheduled for **Sunday, February 2, 2025**, at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Cook-Off judging & Silent Auction (4pm), Live Auction (5:30pm), Chili/Hot Dog Supper (5-7pm). Tickets: Chili \$7, 2 Hot Dogs \$7. All School & ECC children are selling tickets until 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 **4<sup>th</sup> 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 Patricia Barnett at 512-581-1154. Deadline to turn in Sponsorship packets is January 17, 2025.

- ✝ **Texas Lutheran Writers Round Up:** Mark your calendars for the annual Texas Lutheran Writers Round Up at Faith Lutheran High School on Friday, January 31. Joining us this year are authors Sarah Baughman, Christina Hergenrader, Ruth Meyer, Texas District President Rev. Michael Newman, Martha Van Buskirk, and Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller. Please note that this event is not just for writers. The authors are the presenters, but it's open to anyone and everyone! Check the bulletin in future weeks for more details. This is an event you won't want to miss!
- ✝ **Poinsettias.** There are poinsettias in the church meeting room that have not been picked up after New Year. If you have not picked up your flower yet, please do so by Wednesday.

**LUTHERAN HOUR:** Next Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, **“He Made Me a Believer”** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev Dr. Michael Zeigler. God makes us believers and the more we believe the more we become involved in the institutions God made—church, marriage, family, and work. (John 2:11). 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](http://lhm.org) for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live.

### THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today	<b>Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.</b> Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Parents 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.
Wednesday	School Chapel – 8:30 a.m. Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.
Friday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Next Sunday	<b>Worship Service w/Communion– 8:30 a.m.</b> Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Acolytes: Everett Corn and Addyson Early Greeter: Pam Krause

**Birthdays: Today** – Zachary Weise; 13<sup>th</sup> – Anita Andrews, Bryan Gersch, Lilianne Gonzales, Mary Jatzlau, Karen Schmidt; 14<sup>th</sup> – Kaitlyn Behrend; 15<sup>th</sup> – Wesley Burgdorf; 16<sup>th</sup> – Daylon Knott, Landon Menzel, Becky Weise; 17<sup>th</sup> – Haley Marak; 18<sup>h</sup> – Milton Albrecht, Sierra Bradshaw. God's Blessings to you.

### ST. PAUL NOTES:

**Attendance Last Week:** New Year's Eve- 127

**Offering Last Week:** \$10,057.38

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$3,169.38	Mission	\$650.00
New Years Eve	\$6,083.00	Lutheran Hour	\$25.00
<b>Received 12/31/2024</b>	<b>\$9,252.38</b>	Lutheran Bible Translators	\$40.00
		Lutheran Social Services	\$40.00
<b>Est. needed per week</b>	<b>\$29,635.00</b>	<b>Mission Total</b>	<b>\$755.00</b>
<b>Received MTD</b>	<b>\$183,673.31</b>	<b>Savings/Other:</b>	
<b>Est. needed per month</b>	<b>\$128,417.00</b>	Building Fund	\$25.00
		Scholarship	\$25.00
		<b>Savings/Other Total</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
		Total	\$10,057.38

**MEMORIALS: Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Annie Hempel by Michael & Teresa Krause - \$25.00. **Scholarship Fund:** In memory of Sherman Lynn Allen by David Karen Schmidt - \$25.00

**ST. PAUL NOTES:**

**Attendance Last Week:** New Years Day- 108, Communion- 74, Morning Worship- 265, Communion- 118, Bible Class- 20; Sunday School- 24, Offering- \$20.00.

**Offering Last Week:** \$41,052.25

<b>Home:</b>		<b>Mission:</b>	
General	\$18,756.00	Mission	\$519.00
New Years Day	\$1,888.00	<b>Mission Total</b>	<b>\$519.00</b>
Sunday School	\$20.00	<b>Savings/Other:</b>	
Lunch Room	\$840.00	School Fund	\$850.00
ECC Operating	\$9,491.25	Tuition Assistance Fund	\$200.00
Tuition	\$7,488.00	Building Fund	\$1,000.00
<b>Received 1/5/2025</b>	<b>\$38,483.25</b>	<b>Savings/Other Total</b>	<b>\$2,050.00</b>
<b>Est. needed per week</b>	<b>\$29,635.00</b>	Total	\$41,052.25
<b>Received MTD</b>	<b>\$38,483.25</b>		
<b>Est. needed per month</b>	<b>\$128,417.00</b>		

**MEMORIALS: General:** In memory of Lawrence Richter by Robert & Joyce Hinze - \$50.00. In honor of Kathryn Fischer’s 85<sup>th</sup> birthday by Martin & Jeannie Werchan - \$85.00. In memory of Dora Durrenberger and Jasmine Bailey by Martin & Jeannie Werchan - \$100.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Jasmine Bailey by Dan & Suzet Engler - \$50.00. In memory of M/M Walter P. Fischer, M/M Mevin Menzel and Euene Menzel by Steven & Tammy Lehmann - \$100.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Jasmine Bailey by Bobby & Carolyn Oltmann - \$25.00. **Tuition Assistance Fund:** In memory of Jasmine Bailey by Linda Jones - \$25.00; by Arthur & Dianna Noack - \$50.00; by Gary & Cindy Becker - \$25.00. In memory of Judy Kalbas and Jasmine Bailey by Elaine Mersiovsky - \$100.00.

**Serving today:** **Elders**– Douglas Hartfield and Michael Krause  
**Organist**- Jack Wiederhold  
**Acolytes**- Lane Gersch and Nathen Barnett  
**Head Ushers**- Donald Becker  
**Captain**- Michael Becker **Assistant**- Glen Albrecht  
**Ushers**- Wyatt Arldt, Gabriel Bailey, Virgil Becker,  
Jace Heuermann, Clay Mertink, Cody Mertink,  
Owen Wittman, Robert Zoch  
**Counting and Posting offering this week:**  
**Chairman**- Mason Becker  
Tim Symm, Nathan Michael, Carson Becker  
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**Life Through the Church Year:  
Epiphany I/Baptism of Our Lord**

With the sacrament of Baptism, the Lord Jesus makes childbirth central to the Christian Gospel. The coming forth of new life always provides cause for celebration because the Savior has sanctified it. Human beings as helpless and dependent as gestating babies have His blessing: “You are my beloved child, and with you I am well pleased” (Luke 3:22).



### **New Student Registration**

Any new student who registers for FLHS prior to Friday, March 7, 2025 will only pay \$100 in registration fees. Register early to take advantage of this savings! You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at [www.flhstx.org](http://www.flhstx.org).

### **Shadow Days**

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. 8th Grade parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

### **Athletic Schedule**

The next basketball game is Friday, January 17th at 4 pm at Fayetteville. You can visit our website to see all our athletic schedules. Come cheer on our Falcons!

### **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!

### **Free Wednesday mornings?**

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday, beginning at 10:30 am.

### **End of Year Giving**

Thank you for your support of Faith Lutheran High School during our End of Year giving. We were blessed through generous contributions from many of you. We are still accepting donations if you missed out but would like to support the ministry and growth of FLHS.

### **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!