

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

Church 366-9650
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Rev. S. 716-7632

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The Second Sunday after Christmas

5 January 2025

Welcome! *The Lord Jesus Is Found in the Temple of His Church.* The Lord Jesus “grew and became strong” (Luke 2:40); He “increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52). As His body grew and developed, His mind also increased in knowledge and understanding. For as our brother in the flesh, that we might “have redemption through his blood” (Eph. 1:7), He lived by faith in the Word of His Father. Thus, He was catechized by His parents, who took Him up “to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover” (Luke 2:41); when He was of age, He gave attention to the Holy Scriptures in His Father’s house (Luke 2:46, 49). Christ Jesus is still found in His Church, in “the word of truth, the gospel,” by which we are adopted by His Father and sealed with His Spirit (Eph. 1:5, 13). Thus do we gain “an understanding mind” to go about our vocations, discerning “between good and evil” (1 Kings 3:9). And so do we also go up to Jerusalem, to stand “before the ark of the covenant of the Lord” (1 Kings 3:15), that is, in the Holy Communion of His body and blood.

We invite you all to worship with us again.

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
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
Janelle Mogonye-recovering (grandmother of Lindsey Hansen)
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)
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

Those who mourn:

The family of Jasmine Bailey

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: 850, 410, 781 v. 1&2, 376, 395, 696, 686

Sermon Text: Luke 2:40-52

The Sermon: **“Still Searching?”**

✠ **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary by David and Irene Hempel.

✠ **We express our sympathy** to the family of Jasmine Bailey She fell asleep in Jesus, Tuesday, December 31, 2024. Funeral services for Miss Bailey will be held here at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. May the Lord comfort the family with His word of promise.

✠ **Thank You.** We want to thank everyone for their continued prayers and support throughout the years and Judy’s battle with multiple sclerosis. She would’ve been so touched by the flowers and memorials sent in her memory. Our sincere gratitude to Pastor Schmidt for his home visits, the LWML for the lovely luncheon and to anyone else who helped with her funeral or offered your kindness during this difficult time. God’s Blessings.

The Family of Judith Kalbas

✠ **Trustees** will meet this Monday, January 5th, at 7:00 p.m. Packets are available to be picked up in the church office to review prior to the meeting.

✠ **Church Council** – This Thursday, January 9th at 7:00 p.m. the church council will meet to set the agenda for the January 12th voters meeting. All congregational officers and board members are part of the church council.

✠ **Being Installed** today are the new Congregational Officers: Rusty Mertink – Chairman, Bradley Schmidt – Vice Chairman, Daniel Krause – Secretary, Keith Oltmann – Board of Elders, Tim Weise – Board of Elders, Wes Burgdorf – Board of Trustees, Conner Stewart – Board of Trustees, Joseph Kalbas – Board of Christian Education, Paul Sommerfield – Board of Christian Education, Maon Becker – Finance Chair, Carson Becker – Finance, Virgil Becker – Finance, Cole Mertink – Finance, Chase Oltmann – Finance, Jonathan Mitschke – Picnic Committee – Beer, Troy Wiederhold – Picnic Committee – Novelty Stand (2 years), Robert Muniz – Scholarship, Kristin Lehmann – Scholarship.

✠ **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.

✠ **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

✠ **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.

✠ **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!

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, January 12th, **“What’s This Neighborhood Coming To?”** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. When you’re not limited by the size of your table, you can invite everyone. (John 1:14). 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:

January 5 – Christmas II

No human life---and no human pregnancy---ever goes unplanned or unwanted by Almighty God. Ephesians' first chapter makes clear the Heavenly Father conceived each precious person "before the foundations of the world" (Ephesians 1:4). And the coming of Christ Jesus incorporates male and female, old or young, into heaven's household by adoption. Children come as Gospel gifts!

Serving today: Elders– Douglas Hartfield and Michael Krause
Organist- Susan Michale
Acolytes- Whitley Smolik and Dylan Arldt
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Michael Becker **Assistant-** Glen Albrecht
Ushers- Wyatt Arldt, Gabriel Bailey, Virgil Becker,
Jace Heuermann, Clay Mertink, Cody Mertink,
Cole Mertink, Owen Wittman, Robert Zoch
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Glen Albrecht
Pablo Rodriguez, Dan Marak, Virgil Becker

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Installation of Congregational Officers

Monday No School-Staff Professional Development Day
Board of Trustees Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
LWML Quilting – 9:00 a.m.
Board of Christian Education Meeting – 7:00 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.
Adult Choir – 7:00 p.m.

Thursday Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.
Church Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Friday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.

Next Sunday **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Acolytes: Lane Gersch and Nathan Barnett
Greeter: Laurie Kasper
Confirmation Parents Meeting – 10:15 a.m.
Voters Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Birthdays: Today – Averie Miertschin, Marissa Ruiz; 7th – Dianna Noack, Carie Oltmann, Zelda Richards; 8th – John Tate, Lynette Wiederhold; 9th – Sharon Claxton; 10th – Bobbie Krause, Lily Roberts; 11th – Michelle Weiser. God's Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Christmas Eve- 498, Christmas Day- 163, Morning Worship- 266, Bible Class- 20; Sunday School- 17, Visitors- 2, Offering- \$17.00.

Offering Last Week: \$29,824.88

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$18,587.40	Mission	\$334.00
Sunday School	\$14.00	Lutheran Hour	\$45.00
Lunch Room	\$700.00	Lutheran Brail Workers	\$1,693.50
ECC Operating	\$922.48	Lutheran Social Services	\$2,195.00
Tuition	\$490.00	Lutheran. Bible Translators	\$2,195.00
Received 12/29/2024	\$20,713.88	Mission Total	\$6,462.50
Est. needed per week		Savings/Other:	
	\$29,635.00	School Fund	\$1,000.00
Received MTD	\$174,421.23	Building Fund	\$25.00
Est. needed per month	\$128,417.00	Bus Replacement Fund	\$1,623.50
		Savings/Other Total	\$2,648.50
		Total	\$29,824.88

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Chester Glenn by Marvin & Charlyn Matthijetz - \$40.00. **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by Edwin, Jr. & Barbara Schmidt - \$45.00. **Tuition:** In memory of Lawrence Richter by Doris Fritsche - \$20.00. **Building:** In memory of Judy Kalbas by M/M Gilbert Krause - \$25.00.