

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
James L. House, Principal

Church 366-9650 Fax 366-2200
School 366-2218 ECC 366-2870
Rev. S. 716-7632

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

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

12 February 2023

Welcome! *Christ Sets Life Before Us so that We Can Walk in His Ways.* The God who reveals Himself in His incarnate Son promises life and blessing to all who obey His commandments “by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules” (Deut. 30:16). However, we are “people of the flesh” and “infants in Christ” (1 Cor. 3:1), among whom “there is jealousy and strife” (1 Cor. 3:3). Jesus must instruct us against the human ways of anger, adultery, divorce and false witness (Matt. 5:21–37), because all who live in these ways “shall surely perish” (Deut. 30:18). On the cross, He died to forgive our sins and free us from the ways of curse and death. Since Jesus Christ is our “life and length of days” (Deut. 30:20), we can be reconciled to our brother, live in chastity and marital faithfulness, and speak with honesty. He who serves from His cross also offers His gift of reconciliation at His altar, and we can be at peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are “God’s field, God’s building” (1 Cor. 3:9).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Gail Albrecht-recovering
Gladys Arldt-recovering
Cynthia Boriack-recovering (mother of Antoinette Richardson)
Irene Hempel
Roselie Johnson-hospitalized (mother of Carie Oltmann)
Judy Kalbas-recovering
Leroy Kalbas-recovering
Nancy Kasper
Douglas Malke-recovering
Anna Miertschin-recovering
Chris Miertschin
Shannon Miertschin
Keeley Schautschick-recovering
Andrew Short-recovering
Greg Sorrento-recovering (nephew of Doris Fritsche)
Bart Steffens-recovering (brother-in-law of Lisa Schmidt and Pam Krause)
Cindy Umphries-recovering (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
Ruby Weiser-recovering

Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

Those fighting cancer including:

Alice Albrecht (sister-in-law of Milton Albrecht and Willard Albrecht)
Lillian Bamsch (sister-in-law of Charlyn & Marvin Matthijetz)
Teresita Brodrick (aunt of David Wittman)
Don Claxton (father of Jeff Claxton)
Russell Cleghorn (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
Ginger Clifford (sister of Nancy Kasper)
Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

Brenda Karisch (friend of Bonnie Wenke family)
Steven Kelly (cousin of Jessica Gruetzner, brother-in-law of Christi Bradford)
Betty Kildair (aunt of Dorothy Schautschick)
Theresa Krause
Bethany Lara (daughter of Kathy Gersch)
Heather Lilly (granddaughter of Irene Noack)
Ruby Maass (Mother of Linda Schonhoeft)
Gladys Mathena (sister of Frances Miertschin and Marilyn Miertschin)
Rhonda Mitschke (friend of Christi Fritsche)
Carol Sander
Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
Arthur Urban
Judy Westbrook (mother of Heather Krause)
Tiffany Wittman (sister-in-law of Jason & Cindy Heuermann)

Those serving in the Armed Forces including:

Steven Cutlip (brother of Stephanie Symm), Fort Bliss, El Paso
Kosh Ozmun (son of Stephanie Miertschin), Ft. Hood, TX
Coy Hunt (son of Shannon & Christine Hunt) Ft. Drum, New York
Jacob Knapp (cousin of Mark Gruetzner, son of Nathan & Heather Wenke) Ft. Stewart, Georgia
Dylan Robbins (cousin of Michelle Birnbaum) Newport, Rhode Island
Randall Weise (grandson of Bernice Doebbler) Ft. Huachuca, Arizona
Peyton Walker (son of Heather Mersiovsky) Ft. Benning, Georgia

Those who mourn: *The family of Leroy Grimm (uncle of Lori Becker)*

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: 496, 394, 781 v. 1&2, 707, 921

Sermon Text: Matthew 5:21-27

The Sermon: **“Not As Bad As”**

Adult Choir Anthem: ♪ *“When Peace Like a River”*

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Barbara Schmidt on her 70th birthday by her family.
- † **The Altar Stand flowers** are placed to the glory of God in loving memory of my husband Ronnie Schautschick on our wedding anniversary and for Valentine’s Day by wife Nancy, children, 9 grandchildren, 2 step grandchildren and 3 step great grandchildren.
- † **Altar flowers** are needed for Sunday, February 19th. If you would like to place flowers on that Sunday, please contact Lana Kaiser at 540-8011
- † **Special Called Voter’s Meeting.** There will be a Special Called Voter’s Meeting on Sunday, February 19th immediately following the service. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the purchase of a Chevy Micro Bird 14 passenger bus with monies to come from the Bus Fund, Oil & Gas Fund and the General Fund. There will be no Bible class.
- † **Year End Contribution Statements** can be picked up in the church office during the week. Please review your statement and if there are any errors, contact the church office.
- † **Help Wanted.** Consider being a volunteer at the Immanuel PSIA competition on March 24. You can assist in grading papers, etc. Please contact Mrs. Bradshaw by February 13th at 979-716-0163.
- † **Attention All Lutheran Ladies!** If you are interested in serving as a greeter for church services, please contact Melodi at 979-540-0039. No experience necessary and it’s a great way to represent St. Paul to our visitors.
- † **Wood Cutters for Picnic.** We will be cutting and hauling wood for the picnic on Saturday, February 25th (**Date changed due to ground being to wet to get in**). For more information or just to let us know that you will be there, please call Russell @ 979-540-0741 or Troy @ 979-412-0341. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated.
- † **South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department** is preparing Barbecue Chicken on Sunday, February 26th at the Serbin picnic grounds from 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon. The barbecue is to go only. If you wish to order please contact Paul Somerfield at 713-922-7501 or St. Paul Lutheran church office at 979-366-9650 by Monday, February 20th.
- † **LWML Bake Sale** – The Ladies of Serbin LWML will be having a bake sale on Sunday, Feb. 26 at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Come support the SLCVFD BBQ Chicken and complete your lunch with dessert! Proceeds from this bake sale will be used to support the various ongoing activities/projects of the Serbin LWML, including the Quilting group, funeral luncheons, and Orphan Grain Train. If you would like to donate items for the bake sale, please bring them to the pavilion before Church on Feb. 26. We appreciate all of your support!
- † **Sunday School Teachers.** We are in need of 3 new Sunday School Teachers. If you are interested, please contact Pastor or Mike Symm.
- † **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 February 13th.
- † **PTLS Chili Supper & Live Auction:** The Annual Chili Supper & Live Auction is fast approaching on **Sunday, March 5th** at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Silent Auction (4pm), Live Auction (5:30pm), Chili/Hot Dog Supper (5-7pm) eat here and to-go available. Tickets: Chili-\$7, 2 Hot Dogs-\$5. All School & ECC children are selling tickets until February 15th, or you can purchase by calling the school office. With its success last year, we will be bringing back the Chili COOK-OFF! Enter your secret family recipe for a chance to win. \$25 entry fee. Prizes awarded. Deadline to register is February 24th. If you would like to make a donation to the meat and condiments, please contact Patricia Barnett (512-581-1154), any PTLs officer, or the school office. **Come out for some Food, Fun, and Fellowship while supporting our PTLs!**

✠ **Texas Lutheran Writers Round Up:** Please plan to join us for the annual Lutheran Writers Round Up at Faith Lutheran High School on Friday, February 24. We are honored to have some new authors this year, including TX District president, Rev. Michael Newman. Donna Snow, who is a highly sought-after speaker and well-known in LWML circles, is joining us as well. Another author new to this event is Rev. Christopher Kennedy, pastor in San Antonio, whose third book will be released on February 14. Sarah Baughman and Ruth Meyer are both returning authors with books published by Concordia Publishing House. You are invited to join us at 9:00 for a live broadcast of KFYO show *The Coffee Hour*, where the authors will be interviewed. The main event begins at 10:00 with author presentations, followed by a meet and greet time, lunch, and an afternoon Q & A session with the authors. Hope to see you there!

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, February 19th, “**Table Manners**”. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Frequently family dinners are important, but none more so than the gracious meal to which God invites His family the Church (Exodus 24:121). 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:

February 12 – Epiphany VI

Jesus affirms that God forbids both murder and adultery (Matthew 5:21, 27). The Lord categorically says, “No!” to abortion because He emphatically says, “Yes” to marriage, family, and community. His “Yes” even extends forgiveness and salvation to those who have aborted their own children. We may advocate the sanctity of human life with the same courage and compassion (Matthew 5:37)—no matter who calls us a fool (Matthew 5:22).

Serving today: Elders– Monroe Schatte, Jr. and Dwayne Schulze
Organist- Jack Wiederhold
Acolytes- Kaden Kasper and Brooke Lehmann
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Troy Menzel Assistant- Troy Menzel
Ushers- Joshua Adair, John Hinze, Scott Jones,
Russell Kappler, Brooks Kasper, Kyle Kasper,
Ty Kasper, Caleb Oltmann, Curtis Oltmann,
Clyde Schimank, Troy Wiedehold
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Glen Albrecht
Carson Becker, Ty Kasper, Payton Oltmann

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today	Worship Service – 8:30 a.m. Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. LYF Meeting & Social – 2:00 p.m. Super Bowl
Monday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Tuesday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m. Circuit Meeting @ Trinity, Dime Box – 9:00 a.m. Valentine’s Day
Wednesday	Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m. School Chapel – 8:30 a.m. LWML Quilting – 9:00 a.m. Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Staff Devotions – 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: Grant Oltmann and Tucker Kalbas Greeter: Judy Boriack Special Called Voter’s Meeting

Birthdays: Today – Barbara Schmidt; 14th – Dana Karisch, Doris Kunkel, Rachel Mertink; 15th – Lucy Becker, Trey Fritsche, Lawrence Irwin, Jr., Joseph Kalbas, Keith Oltmann; 16th – Marian Wiederhold; 17th – Irene Noack; 18th Frances Mutscher. God’s Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Morning Worship-243, Communion- 167, Bible Class- 16; Sunday School- 31, Banner Classes: Nursery II, Offering- \$27.00.

Offering Last Week: \$39,524.28

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$23,440.25	Mission	\$970.00
Sunday School	\$27.00	Mission Total	\$970.00
Lunch Room	\$523.00	Savings/Other:	
ECC Operating	\$8,551.03	School Fund	\$75.00
Tuition	\$4,623.00	Organ Restoration	\$60.00
Received 2/5/2023	\$37,164.28	Building Fund	\$1,050.00
		Scholarship	\$50.00
Est. needed per week	\$22,500.00	Endowment Fund	\$50.00
Received MTD	\$34,164.28	Bus Replacement Fund	\$55.00
Est. needed per month	\$118,000.00	Tuition Assistance Fund	\$50.00
		Savings/Other Total	\$1,390.00
		Total	\$39,524.28

MEMORIALS: School Fund: In memory of Michael Wiederhold by Philip & Rose Tharp and family - \$50.00.

STOCK THE CART. To celebrate the love of Jesus with others this Valentine’s Day (2/14) and help the Giddings Food Pantry, we’re asking the SPS students **to bring 150 items (either canned or dried goods) during the week of February 6-10 and February 13 & 14 for our Stock the Cart” collection.** Items can be brought to the cart in the gym. Remember, our “Stock the Cart” program provides food item for those who are less fortunate than ourselves in our community and share the love of Jesus with them? Thanks for participating

† **Save the Date- VBS JUNE 12-16th!** During Rainforest Explorers VBS, we will learn how Jesus is our ultimate guide in our lives! **Volunteer for VBS-** Please contact Krista Rodriguez at 979-716-0143 if you would like to assist with VBS this Summer.



The Voyager Voice

St. Paul Lutheran School

1578 CR 211 Giddings, TX 78942

Office Phone 979-366-2218

✠ Check us out on the Internet at www.stpaulserbinschool.org ✠

for the week of February 12-18, 2023

2022-23 School Year Theme – “Won By One” – 1 Corinthians 15:57

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 17...End of 4th Six-Weeks
- Feb. 17-19...TLRT State Basketball Tournament
- Feb. 20...Presidents' Day
NO SCHOOL
- Feb. 21...Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast – 7:15 AM
- Feb. 22...Ash Wednesday Chapel Service (Imposition of Ashes) – 8:30 AM
- Feb. 25...Severe Weather Preparedness Drill – 10:00 AM
Distribution of 4th Six-Week Report Cards
- Feb. 24...Deadline to return Mid-Year School Survey
- Mar. 5-11...Lutheran Schools Week
- Mar. 5...LSW All-School Sing 8:30 AM
School Open House 9:30 AM
PTLS Chili Supper, Auction, and Chili Cook-Off – 4:00-7:00 PM

From the Principal's Desk . . .

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!! As we celebrate with hearts and candy on Monday, let us remember our Greatest Lover, Jesus Christ who gave his life for our sins. *“Greater love has no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”* (John 15:13)

RE-ENROLLMENT FORMS for '23-'24 were sent home on Friday; please return forms by Friday, March 10th.

Complete your **MIDYEAR SCHOOL SURVEYS** and return it by Friday, Feb. 24th.

Have a great Valentine's week! ~ Jim House, Principal

NEWS, NOTES, and HAPPENINGS

RE-ENROLLMENT TIME. . . February is Re-Enrollment Time at St. Paul Lutheran for the 2023-24 school year. A *Re-Enrollment Packet*, containing a 2023-24 Re-Enrollment Form, Tuition & Fee schedule, and details explaining the process, is coming home **TODAY, Feb. 10th** with each student in Kindergarten through Grade 7 currently enrolled at St. Paul. Please note the Tuition and Fee Schedule on the back page of the form.

Also included is the “*Commitment to Christian Education*” policy and an *Application for Active Member Tuition Rate form*. We encourage every St. Paul family to prayerfully consider the quality education and eternal benefits offered for your children at St. Paul-Serbin and complete and return the Re-Enrollment Form for each child. ***Re-Enrollment Forms are due back by Friday, March 10th***. Come grow with us in 2023! Complete and return your Re-Enrollment Form right away!



Now RE-ENROLLING current students for the 2023-24 school year

MIDYEAR SCHOOL SURVEY. . . We are constantly trying to improve our quality of instruction and your child's learning experience at St. Paul Lutheran School. One important part of doing so is to hear from our families about how we're doing! To that end, we are interested in your opinions and comments concerning a variety of programs and services at St. Paul Lutheran School. Please complete this brief survey *being sent home TODAY, Feb. 10th* and return the completed form in the attached envelope to the school office ***no later than Friday, February 24th***. All responses and comments will be shared in strict confidence with members of the Board of Christian Education. Results of the survey will be available for your review in late March. Thank you for your assistance in making



The Voyager Voice

A weekly publication of
St. Paul Lutheran School – Serbin
Jim House, Principal
Home Phone 972-948-3960

Our Mission

*“To Educate Children for Life to
Witness the Word to the World.”*

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY. . .from the Faculty and staff of St. Paul Lutheran School. Our hope is that as you celebrate this special day of love *next Tuesday, Feb. 14th*, you remember the "GREATEST LOVER" of all, our Savior Jesus Christ! Share the words of John 15:13 with others— "*Greater love has no one than this, that he (Jesus) lay down his life for his friends (you and me).*"



CHILI SUPPER, AUCTION, & COOKOFF. . .The annual St. Paul Chili Supper and Auction is planned for *Sunday, March 5th* beginning at 4:00 PM. This year's event will also include the popular *Chili Cook-Off*. Our local chefs will prepare their chili for all to taste and vote the "Best Serbin Chili for 2023"! Here's the schedule for the event: **4:00-5:30 PM – Silent Auction** (tables close beginning at 5:00 PM)

- 5:00 PM – Bake Sale** (until sold out)
- 5:00-7:00 PM – Chili Supper**
- 5:30-7:00 PM – Live Auction**
- 5:30 PM – Chili Cook-Off** turn in

Tickets are available from any SPS student or at the school office. Prices are: (pre-sale only) \$7.00–Chili Bowl, \$5.00–2 Hot Dogs, \$10.00 per "Tast & Judge" Cook-Off Armband. All profits from the event will go toward future projects and improvements for St. Paul Lutheran School & ECC. Come for the cook-off and stay for the supper and auction! Mark your calendars, invite your relatives, neighbors, & friends, and plan now to attend!



PANCAKE BREAKFAST. . .Come celebrate "Fat Tuesday" with the St. Paul students, faculty, and staff at the "Mardi Gras" Parent Pancake Breakfast on *Tuesday, Feb. 21st from 7:15-8:15 AM* in the gym. Parents, you're invited to enjoy some pancakes, sausage, milk, coffee & juice with your child and some early morning fellowship with the other parents. To help with our event planning, complete the **Reservation Form coming home TODAY and return it by next Friday, Feb. 17th**. "*Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler!*" and plan to join us for the Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast on February 21st!



AHA KIDS HEART CHALLENGE. . .Thank you to all the SPS students who participated in the American Heart Association "Kids Heart Challenge" during February. To date, we have **raised over \$5,800** for the AHA through your pledges and donations. The Kids Heart Challenge officially ends today, Feb. 10th. But, we can still accept **pledge money online through next Wednesday, Feb. 15th**. Thanks once again for the great job and your participation in this year's AHA Kids Heart Challenge!



STOCK THE CART. . .To celebrate the love of Jesus with others this Valentine's Day (2:14) and help the Giddings Food Pantry, we're asking the SPS students to **bring 150 items (either canned or dried goods) during the week of Feb. 13-17** for our "Stock the Cart" collection. Items can be brought to the cart in the gym. Remember, our "Stock the Cart" program provides food items for those who are less fortunate than ourselves in our community and share the love of Jesus with them! Thanks for participating.



CHAPEL OFFERING PROJECT

To date, we've gathered offerings *totaling \$450.75* in support of the *Lutheran Braille Workers*. Next Wednesday is our final offering for this project. Watch next week's News Blasts for information about of final chapel offering project for 2022-2023; and remember your chapel offerings weekly and contribute generously in support of our worthy project.



BASKETBALL NEWS. . .Thanks to all our fans for your support of our Voyager basketball teams during the 2022-23 regular seasons that concluded this week. Next weekend, the Varsity Boys team will participate in the annual *Texas Lutheran Regional Tournament (TLRT) at Tomball on Feb. 17-19*. The Boys first game is on Friday, Feb. 17th at 1:00 PM vs Prince of Peace "A"-Carrollton. Check out the whole bracket of games & times on the hallway bulletin board.



HAVE A BLESSED WEEK! . .Have a Happy Valentine's Day! Share the love of Jesus with all that you know this week! If I can be of any service to you this month, feel free to stop by my office or call for an appointment.



Your partner in Christ,
James L. House,
Principal

God's Valentine

For God so loVed the world
that He gAve
His onLy
begottEn
So N
thaT whoever
believes In Him
should Not perish
but have Eternal life



Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up

FLHS will welcome Sarah Baughman, Rev. Christopher Kennedy, Ruth Meyer, Rev. Michael Newman, and Donna Snow on Friday, February 24th for the 4th annual Texas Lutheran Writer's Round Up. The authors will give a presentation beginning at 10 am and then be available for questions and book signings. See our flier for the Round Up to see the full list of opportunities during the event. We are blessed to offer this event to our community, so please plan to join us!

Spring Raffle

FLHS raffle tickets are now available!! Tickets are \$20 each. Drawing will be the week of March 6-10, during National Lutheran Schools Week. Items include:

- 3 Nights at Port Aransas Beach Condo for 8 people
- \$750 Visa Gift Card
- \$750 Visa Gift Card
- Stoeger STR-9C 9mm
- Private Catered Meal for 12
- K2 Cooler, Ribeye Roll, and \$100 Visa Gift Card
- Handcrafted Wooden Train & Metal "JOY" Sign
- Antique Side Table, Oversized Custom Charcuterie Board, and Tree Change Doll
- Casserole of the Month for a year
- Dessert of the Month for a year

Limited amount of tickets available - get yours today! Please contact any FLHS delegate, student, staff or call (979) 242-2889 to get your tickets!! You don't want to miss out!!

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.

New Student Registration

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is underway. One new student has already enrolled and we are looking to add more students to our family. Any new student who registers for FLHS prior to **Friday, March 10, 2023** 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.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

As a Thrivent member, you may have Choice Dollars that allow you to designate where the funds go, and by sending them to Faith, you can help us continue in our mission of Instilling Wisdom Today for Faithful Leaders Tomorrow! The deadline to designate your choice dollars from 2022 is **March 31, 2023**.

We've Got SPIRIT, YES, we do!

FLHS has partnered with BSN Sports and is now offering an online spirit wear store - including clothes, tumblers, decals, and more, and it's all customizable. This is the final week to use the code SPIRIT (before February 15, 2023) and you will receive 25% off your total purchase. Please use the QR code shown or visit



<https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/texas/warda/faith-lutheran-high-school> to place an order.