

# 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  
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Church Address: 1572 CR 211 Giddings, TX 78942

## The First Sunday in Lent

18 February 2024

**Welcome! Christ Jesus Defeats Our Temptation and Saves Us by His Faithfulness.** In faith and the fear of God, Abraham prepared to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. At the Word of the Lord, he “took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son.” And “when they came to the place of which God had told him,” Abraham bound Isaac “and laid him on the altar” (Gen. 22:6, 9). Then God stayed Abraham’s hand and provided “for himself the lamb for a burnt offering” (Gen. 22:8). That Lamb is God’s own beloved Son, Jesus, in whom “all the nations of the earth” are blessed (Gen. 22:18). As the Substitute for all the sons of men, Jesus is driven by the Spirit “into the wilderness” to be “tempted by Satan” (Mark 1:12–13) in order to endure and defeat all temptation. We are tempted by our own desire, which conceives and “gives birth to sin” (James 1:14–15). But this blessed Man, Christ Jesus, remained “steadfast under trial,” and He has received “the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him” (James 1:12). His faithfulness, His victory and His life are now given to us by His grace in the Gospel.

We invite you all to worship with us again.

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### In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

*Geraldine Albrecht-recovering*  
*Nancy Beckcom-recovering*  
*Chris Birnbaum-recovering.*  
*Bradley Cruz (great-great grandson of Hildegard Krause)*  
*Trey Fritsche-recovering*  
*Clarence Iselt-recovering*  
*Gladys Iselt-hospitalized*  
*Stella Jackson-surgery*  
*Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)*  
*Judy Kalbas-recovering*  
*Claudelle Krska (friend of Antionette Richardson)*  
*Lyndy Krause-recovering*  
*Douglas Malke-recovering*  
*Linda Pfeffer-recovering (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)*  
*Cindy Umphries-recovering (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)*  
*Conway Whited-recovering (nephew of Brad & Ashley Schmidt)*  
*Ruby Weiser-hospitalized*  
*Martin Werchan-testing*

### Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

#### Those fighting cancer including:

*Lillian Bamsch (sister-in-law of Charlyn & Marvin Matthijetz)*  
*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)*  
*Ian Hailes-great nephew of Marian Wiederhold and Stephen 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)*  
*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)*  
*Walter Rehle (friend of the Arldt’s from Germany)*  
*Carol Sander*  
*Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)*  
*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. Cavazos, 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*  
*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*  
*Manuel Camacho (friend of Randy & Janice Becker) Army Reserves, being shipped to Israel*

#### Those who mourn:

*Erwin Schulz (brother-in-law of Judy Boriack)*

#### 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: 438, 656, 781 v. 1&2, 861, 547, 707, 655

Sermon Text: Genesis 22:1-18

The Sermon: **“Who Is Faithful?”**

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God, in honor of Marian Wiederhold on her birthday by Jack, children and grandchildren.
- † **Thank You.** The family members of the Louis Conrad Doebbler family wish to express their sincere thanks and gratitude for the loving kindness and sympathy shown to us by our friends and members of the community during Louis’s illness. Your kind words, flowers, memorials, gifts of food, and prayers were a great comfort during this time. Thank you to Pastor Schmidt’s comforting message and Jack Wiederhold’s beautiful organ music. Also thank you to the ladies of the LWML for providing the luncheon. God Bless you all.
- † **South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department** is preparing Barbecue Chicken on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at the Serbin picnic grounds from 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon. The barbecue is to go only. Order forms are available from the ushers. If you wish to order please fill out this form and return it to the ushers, or contact Paul Somerfield at 713-922-7501 or St. Paul Lutheran church office at 979-366-9650 by Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.
- † **PTLS Chili Supper & Live Auction:** The Annual Chili Supper & Live Auction is scheduled for **Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Cook-Off judging & Silent Auction (4pm), Live Auction (5:30pm), Chili/Hot Dog Supper (5-7pm) eat here and to-go available.  
Attention Chili Cookers! Enter your famous recipe for a chance to win at our **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off!** \$25 entry fee. Prizes awarded. Deadline to register is February 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Proceeds will go toward various projects at the School and the ECC.  
**Come out for some Food, Fun, and Fellowship while supporting our PTLs!**
- † **The Holy Cross Youth Group** annual pork steak fundraiser will be held Sunday, March 10th. Drive thru only at the Holy Cross picnic grounds from 10:00-12:30. Plates are \$15 each and include pork steak, green beans, noodles, and corn. This meal is presale only by Thursday, Feb. 29th. Tickets are \$15 each and may be purchased at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Chevron in LaGrange, First National Bank of Giddings, or from any Holy Cross youth group member. There will also be a bake sale with homemade items for a freewill donation.
- † **We are in need** of someone to take care of mowing the church property and the cemetery. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office at 979-366-9650
- † **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 19<sup>th</sup>.

**LUTHERAN HOUR:** Next Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, **“When Winning Is Losing”**. Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes. In Christ, losing is winning and winning is losing. Dr. John Nunes explains what that means. (Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31. Romans 5:1-11, Mark 8:8-27). 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.

**Serving today:** Elders— Douglas Hartfield and Michael Krause  
Organist- Daniel Krause  
Acolytes- Lane Gersch and Trenton Grange  
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, Benjamin Schonhoeft, Robert Zoch  
**Counting and Posting offering this week:**  
Chairman- Glen Albrecht  
Tommy Miertschin, Ty Kasper, Payton Oltmann  
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**THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK**

Today **Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**  
 Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.  
 Texas Lutheran Regional Basketball Tournament  
 @ Tomball

Monday **Presidents Day**  
 No School  
 ECC Closed

Tuesday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.  
 School Chapel – 8:30 a.m.  
 Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.  
**Lenten Worship Service – 7:00 p.m.**  
 Acolytes: Alice Gurka and Cooper Hinze  
 Greeter: Dianna Noack  
 Adult Choir – 7:45 p.m.

Thursday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.  
 Board of Elders Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Friday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.  
 PSIA District Meet @ Immanuel, Giddings

Next Sunday **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**  
 Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.  
 Acolytes: Lukas Iselt and Kalisa Oltmann  
 Greeter: Melodi Oltmann  
 Sunday School Teachers Meeting – 10:15 a.m.  
 SLCVFD Chicken Barbecue

**Birthdays: Today** – Frances Mutscher; 21<sup>st</sup> – Rev. Paul Droegemueller, Cameron Kalbas; 22<sup>nd</sup> – Liana Adair, David Wittman, II; 23<sup>rd</sup> – Steve Solomon; 24<sup>th</sup> – Jacki Short, Reese Weiser. God’s Blessings to you.

**Life Thoughts in the Church Year:**

**February 18 – Lent 1**

The Lord God forbid father Abraham from sacrificing his boy Isaac (Genesis 22:12). The lesson extends to us, too. Abortion is immoral because it is unnecessary. Jesus alone serves as beast of burden in the solemn rite of righting wrongs (Mark 1:13). Death always hatches from sin (James 1:15), but we belong in the business of redemption. If God’s forgiveness forgets even abortion (Psalm 25:7), we ought to forget about it also.

**ST. PAUL NOTES:**

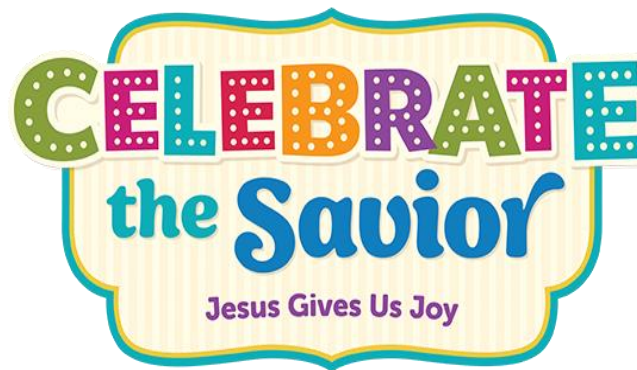
**Attendance Last Week:** Morning English- 252, Bible Class- 23; Sunday School- 32, Offering- \$24.00

**Offering Last Week:** \$17,225.86

<b>Home:</b>		<b>Mission:</b>	
General	\$8,200.51	Mission	\$277.00
Sunday School	\$24.00	Lutheran Hour	\$90.00
Thrivent Choice	\$526.00	<b>Mission Total</b>	<b>\$367.00</b>
Lunch Room	\$2,069.50	<b>Savings/Other:</b>	
ECC Operating	\$1,818.85	School Fund	\$140.00
LWML Quilting	\$20.00	Building Fund	\$40.00
School Registration	\$975.00	<b>Savings/Other Total</b>	<b>\$180.00</b>
Tuition	\$3,045.00		
<b>Received 2/11/2024</b>	<b>\$16,678.86</b>	Total	\$17,225.86

**Est. needed per week** \$29,635.00  
**Received MTD** \$58,339.11  
**Est. needed per month** \$128,417.00

**MEMORIALS: General:** In memory of Louis Doebbler by Kyle, Laurie and Kaden Kasper - \$50.00; by Warner & Helen Mize - \$50.00. In memory of Elmo Schulze by Robert & Brenda Muniz - \$40.00; by Wilbert & Carol Jean Noack - \$30.00; by M/M Gilbert Krause - \$25.00; by M/M Dennis Kurio - \$25.00. In memory of Herman Gersch by Warner & Helen Mize - \$50.00. **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Monroe Becker by Edwin, Jr. & Barbara Schmidt - \$45.00. In memory of Herman Gersch by Edwin, Jr. & Barbara Schmidt - \$45.00. In memory of Theresa Krause by Gus & Cheryl Kroos - \$50.00. **LWML Quilting:** In memory of Erwin Schulze by M/M Delvin Boriack - \$20.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Elmo Schulze by Marvin & Charlyn Matthijetz - \$40.00. In memory of Melissa Lehmann by Jerry & Karen Faske - \$100.00. **Immanuel Lutheran Building Fund:** In memory of Herman Gersch by Sharon Birkelbach - \$40.00. **Lutheran High School:** In memory of Elmo Schulze by Lucille, Lynette & Darlene Schatte - \$25.00.



**VBS is June 10th -14th!** We're having a party- a party to celebrate the Savior- and you're invited! Of all the blessings God gives us, His Son, Jesus is the biggest reason to celebrate! Join us this Summer at VBS to party!

**Volunteer for VBS-** Please let Krista Rodriguez know if you would like to assist with VBS this Summer.



### **Spring Raffle**

FLHS raffle tickets are NOW AVAILABLE!! Tickets are \$20 each. Drawing will be the week of March 4-8, during National Lutheran Schools Week. Items include:

- \$1700 Travel Voucher with World Travel
- Custom AR Rifle made by Jigsaw Weaponry (up to \$750)
- Kalahari Resort - 1 night stay in 2bed/2bath suite with 5 waterpark passes
- Valentine's Do Over Package (\$450+)
- Relax and Chill Package (\$700+)
- Staycation Package (\$400+)
- Handcrafted Cedar Lineman Truck, 2024 Silver Coin and Set of Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs
- Handcrafted Cedar Train, 2023 Silver Coin, and Lone Star Back Roads Framed Photo
- Casserole of the Month for a year
- Dessert of the Month for a year

To see details about each package, please view our Facebook page. 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!!

### **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

If you are 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 2023 is **March 31, 2024**.

### **New Student Registration**

Registration for 2024-2025 is underway. Two new students have already enrolled and we are looking to add more students to our family. Any new student who registers for FLHS prior to **Friday, March 8, 2024** 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.

### **Scholarship Opportunities**

Applications are now being accepted for an academic-based scholarship from the Amanda (Zoch) Knox Memorial Scholarship Fund. This fund will pay for the full tuition for an incoming 9th grade student of Faith Lutheran beginning in the Fall of 2024. Applications are available from Mrs. Kueck or from Cyndy Zoch ([cyndy.zoch@gmail.com](mailto:cyndy.zoch@gmail.com)) and are due May 1, 2024.

### **Free Wednesday mornings?**

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday. Chapel will be led by Pr. Dustin Beck as a Lenten Worship Service, beginning at 10:30 am.



# 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](http://www.stpaulserbinschool.org) ✠

for the week of February 18-24, 2024

2023-24 School Year Theme – “Connected” – Romans 15:5

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 19...Presidents' Day  
– NO SCHOOL
- Feb. 22...Severe Weather Preparedness  
Drill – 10:00 AM  
Distribution of 4<sup>th</sup> Six-Week  
Report Cards
- Feb. 23...PSIA District Meet
- Mar. 1...Lee Co. Jr. Livestock Show  
NO SCHOOL
- Mar. 3...PILS Chili Supper, Auction,  
and Chili Cook-Off  
– 4:00-7:00 PM
- Mar. 3-9...Lutheran Schools Week
- Mar. 5...I-SW All-School Sing  
– 8:30 AM  
School Open House  
– 9:30 AM  
PILS Chili Supper, Auction,  
and Chili Cook-Off  
4:00-7:00 PM
- Mar. 7...Kindergarten Round-Up  
– 8:30-10:30 AM  
Family Hamburger Lunch  
– 11:00 AM-12 PM  
Voyager Variety Show  
– 11:00 AM
- Mar. 8...Re-Enrollment Forms due  
Midterm 5<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks

## From the Principal's Desk. . .

**MIDYEAR SCHOOL SURVEYS** are due next Friday; return them to the school office in the envelope provided.

**RE-ENROLLMENT FORMS** were sent home last week; return them by Spring Break.

Watch for **REPORT CARDS** coming home Thursday!

**PSIA District Meet** will be held next Friday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> at Immanuel-Giddings. Watch for important info coming home Tuesday!

Have a blessed week in the Lord! ~ Jim House, Principal

## NEWS, NOTES, and HAPPENINGS

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY.** . . Presidents' Day will be observed at St. Paul Lutheran School *tomorrow (Mon), February 19<sup>th</sup>*. There will be **NO SCHOOL** that day! Classes resume Tuesday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM. Plan ahead for your child care needs and enjoy your mid-winter holiday!



**END OF 6-WEEKS.** . . Today marks the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> Six-Weeks of the 2023-2024 school year. Now's a good time to check whether your tuition and other fee payments are up-to-date. If you have any questions about your account, contact the school office immediately!

**REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION.** . . Parents, look for your child's 4<sup>th</sup> Six-Week report card coming home *next Thursday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>* with your child. Report cards are also available for viewing on FACTS.

Report  
Card

A+

**PSIA COMPETITION.** . . Our Voyager students will compete in the annual Private School Interscholastic Association (PSIA) District Meet *next Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>* at Immanuel-Giddings. *Watch for your schedules and pre-event information coming home on Tuesday, Tues. 20<sup>th</sup> with all student participants and parent volunteers.* If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Bradshaw.



## The Voyager Voice

A weekly publication of  
St. Paul Lutheran School – Serbin  
Jim House, Principal  
Home Phone 972-848-3980

### Our Mission

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



**CHILI SUPPER, AUCTION, & COOKOFF.** . . The annual St. Paul Chili Supper and Auction is planned for *Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>* beginning at 4:00 PM. Once again this year, we'll add to our auction and supper fun with the *Chili Cook-Off*. Our local chefs will prepare their chili for all to taste and vote the "Best Serbin Chili for 2024". 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*



Ticket prices are: (*pre-sale; limited tickets available at the event*) \$7.00—*Chili Bowl*, \$5.00—*2 Hot Dogs*, \$10.00 per "*Test & Judge*" *Cook-Off Armband*. Extra tickets are available for purchase at the school office or after church today. 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!

**RE-ENROLLMENT TIME.** . . February is Re-Enrollment Time at St. Paul Lutheran for the 2024-25 school year. A *Re-Enrollment Packet*, containing a 2024-25 Re-Enrollment Form, Tuition & Fee schedule, and details explaining the process, was sent home previously with each student in



**Now RE-ENROLLING**  
current students for  
the 2024-25 school year  
(forms due Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>)

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 8<sup>th</sup>*. Come grow with us in 2024! Complete and return your Re-Enrollment Form right away!

**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 (sent home last week) and return the completed form in the attached envelope to the school office no later than next Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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 St. Paul Lutheran-Serbin the best school it can be!



**CHAPEL OFFERING PROJECT.** . . Thank you for your support during the last 12 weeks as we gathered offerings *totaling \$978.07* for the *Lutheran Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea*. Beginning next Wednesday, our chapel offerings will go to support the ministry of *Bec's Blessing Assisted Living Center* in Giddings. Watch for more information forthcoming about this ministry, and remember your chapel offerings weekly and contribute generously in support of our worthy project.



**HEART CHALLENGE SUCCESS**

Thank you to the 37 SPS students who participated in the American Heart Association "Kids Heart Challenge" that concluded this week. Thanks to your diligence, generosity, and hard work, we raised a total of \$3,512.14. Great job Voyager Heart Heroes! Thanks once again for the great job and your participation in this year's AHA Kids Heart Challenge!



**SCIENCE NIGHT NEWS.**

Hopefully, everyone turned in their *hypothesis statement and experiment design form* today for their "Science Night of Family Fun" project. If you didn't do so, remember to turn in your form to Mr. House on Tuesday following our Presidents' Day break. And remember...now's the time to start working on your experiments and investigations, especially if your work will take several weeks to complete. During the next several weeks, if you have questions or need help or advise about some aspect of your experiment or investigation—contact Mr. House or your child's teacher. We look forward to seeing your work at Science Night of Family Fun on April 12<sup>th</sup>!



**HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!**

Enjoy your 3-day Presidents' Day Weekend! Share the love of Jesus with all that you know this week! If I can be of any service to you next week, feel free to stop by my office or call for an appointment.



Your partner in Christ,  
James L. House, Principal

