

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 first Sunday in Lent

26 February 2023

Welcome! Following His Baptism, Jesus is “led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil” (Matt. 4:1). As He takes upon Himself the curse of our sin and sets Himself against our enemy, He trusts His Father’s voice and waits upon His Father’s hand for all things. The devil questions His sonship, but the beloved and well-pleasing Son remains faithful and lives “by every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Matt. 4:4). Jesus patiently suffers hunger in His mortal flesh and returns to the dust whence man was taken, and by His pain He brings forth food for all the children of men (Gen. 3:18–19). By the sweat of His brow, we eat the fruit of His cross, even as our nakedness is covered by His righteousness. Although all people live in bondage to death through the trespass of the first man, Adam, all the more “have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many” (Rom. 5:15). His righteous obedience “leads to justification and life for all men” (Rom. 5:18).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Gail Albrecht-recovering
Gladys Arldt-hospitalized
Cynthia Boriack-recovering (mother of Antoinette Richardson)
Hudson Corn-hospitalized
Irene Hempel
Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)
Evelyn Kaiser-hospitalized
Judy Kalbas-recovering
Nancy Kasper
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)
Vernon Bryant (friend of Arthur & Dianna Noack)
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)
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 Don Claxton (father of Jeff Claxton)

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: 718, 656, 781 v. 1&2, 418, 655

Sermon Text: Genesis 3:1-21

The Sermon: **“Half Truth”**

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Kassi Oltmann on her birthday by Curtis Oltmann family.
- † **The Altar Stand flowers** are placed to the glory of God in memory of Adelia Becker by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.
- † **Special Called Voter’s Meeting.** The minutes of the Special Called Voter’s Meeting that was held last Sunday are included in the bulletin this morning.
- † **March Calendar.** The March calendar is available from the ushers this morning and in the church office.
- † **Thank you** to all the wood cutters for their time and use of machinery.
- † **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.
- † **Sunday School Helpers.** We are in need of 3 Sunday School Helpers. If you are interested, please contact Pastor or Mike Symm.
- † **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.
- † **PTLS Chili Supper & Live Auction:** is **NEXT Sunday, March 5th** at the Picnic Grounds! Silent Auction (4pm), Live Auction (5:30pm), Chili/Hot Dog Supper (5-7pm) eat here and to-go available. Limited Meal Tickets available at the door. The **2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off** will kick-off with taste testing / judging from 4-5:30pm. You can purchase a \$10 armband at the cook-off. Proceeds will go toward various projects at the School and outdoor toys for the ECC. It’s not too late 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!**
- † **WENDISH FISH FRY:** The Texas Wendish Heritage Society will be hosting a drive through Fish Fry lunch on Sunday, March 19 at Serbin Picnic Grounds from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. The menu includes Fried Fish, Potato Salad, Brown Beans, Coleslaw and Hush Puppies. There will also be a country store with desserts, dry noodles, coffeecake, other desserts, etc. Tickets are \$15 and calling to reserve tickets is encouraged. To reserve tickets call 979-366-2441 or email museum@texaswendih.org. All proceeds benefit the Texas Wendish Heritage Society.
- † **Stock the Cart.** Thank you for participating in the Valentines Day Stock the Cart project. 133 items were collected for the Giddings Food Pantry.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, March 5th, **“An Arresting Encounter”**. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. A devoutly religious person has an arresting encounter with Jesus and learns what it means to be “born again”. (John 3:16). 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 26 – Lent 1

The devil suggested Jesus attempt death as a solution (Mathew 4:6). Our Savior rejected the deception and rested Himself in the hands of the Heavenly Father. Death only delivers oppression because it serves sinfulness (Romans 5:14). But the victory Jesus gives over our ultimate enemies—Satan and the grave—frees us to live life-and-death decisions to the Lord our God.

Birthdays: Today – Kassi Oltmann; 27th – Jared Becker, Carter Portales, Dennis Sander, Darlene Schatte, KayAnne Zoch; 28th Kailey Burgdorf, Michelle Muniz, George Perry III, Libbi Tharp, Russell Weiser, Chelsea Wiederhold; 29th – Nicole Jackson; 1st – Larry Kalbas, Janis Lehmann, Michael Schmidt; 2nd – Nicolas Gruetzner, Paula Krause, Isabella Rodriguez; 3rd – Janet Oltmann, Kaleb Oltmann, Timothy Weise. God’s Blessings to you.

Serving today: Elders– Monroe Schatte, Jr. and Dwayne Schulze
Organist- Susan Michael
Acolytes- Malynda Schautschick and Maison Schautschick
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Troy Menzel **Assistant-** Mark Jones
Ushers- Joshua Adair, John Hinze, Scott Jones,
 Russell Kappler, Brooks Kasper, Kyle Kasper,
 Ty Kasper, Caleb Oltmann, Curtis Oltmann,
 Clyde Schimank, Troy Wiederhold
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Glen Albrecht
 Tommy Miertschin, Brooks Kasper, Pablo Rodriguez

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
 Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School Teacher’s Meeting – 10:15 a.m.
 SLCVFD BBQ Chicken

Monday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.

Tuesday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.

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.
Lenten Worship Service – 7:00 p.m.
 Acolytes: Nathan Schautschick and Rachel Schautschick
 Greeter: Doris Fritsche
 Adult Choir – 7:45 p.m.

Thursday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
ECC Dr. Seuss Day/Pajama Day

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: Jozlyn Perry and Cooper Hinze
 Greeter: Tammy Hartfield
PTLS Chili Supper & Auction

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: English Worship- 272, Communion- 116; Sunday School- 35, Visitors- 1, Banner Classes: Nursery II, Grade 1, Offering- \$26.15..

Offering Last Week: \$21,643.50

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$8,688.00	Mission	\$210.00
Sunday School	\$26.15	Lutheran Hour	\$20.00
Lunch Room	\$777.50	Mission Total	\$230.00
ECC Operating	\$9,331.25	Savings/Other:	
Tuition	\$2,430.60	School Fund	\$105.00
Received 2/19/2023	\$21,253.50	Bus Replacement Fund	\$55.00
		Savings/Other Total	\$160.00
Est. needed per week	\$22,500.00		
Received MTD	\$73,744.91	Total	\$21,643.50
Est. needed per month	\$118,000.00		

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Leroy Grimm by Jason, Teshia & Lucy Becker - \$100.00. In memory of Dane Luedke's birthday by Mitschke Family - \$500.00. In memory of Ruby Sliva by Calvin & Ina Mitschke - \$200.00. In memory of Lillian Wenke by Herman Gersch - \$25.00. In memory of Herb Roeber by Herman Gersch - \$25.00. In memory of deceased LWML Members 2022 by St. Paul LWML - \$340.00. **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Leroy Grimm by Lucille, Lynette, Darlene Schatte - \$20.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Don Claxton by Philip, Rose, Courtland & Libbi Tharp - \$80.00. In memory of Leroy Grimm by Linda Jones - \$25.00.

† **Altar Cross** – When the Wends came over in 1854 they brought with them the Processional Cross with a matching Altar Cross and Altar candle sticks. These were replaced in August of 1949 with the brass candelabra and Altar Cross. In 1950 the Altar cross and candle sticks were loaned to Trinity Lutheran Church, a mission start in Temple Texas. These were returned to St. Paul in the early 1980's when they purchased their own. When the Wendish Museum was created these items were placed on loan for all to enjoy. The Corpus (body of Christ) on the brass cross was showing some wear with the passage of years. In 2012 the cross was shipped to Concordia University Nebraska's Ecclesiastical arts department for repair. These repairs took place during the season of Lent and the Altar Cross was repaired and returned in time for the Easter services. Since that time during the season of Lent the Original Altar cross has been placed on the altar from Ash Wednesday through Good Friday. The beginnings of this change were out of necessity but have grown into a tradition.

† **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 979-368-2218

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

for the week of February 26-March 4, 2023

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar. 1...School Chapel Service
– 8:30 AM
- 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
- Mar. 9...Kindergarten Round-Up
– 8:30-10:30 AM
Family Hamburger Lunch
– 11:00 AM-12 PM
Voyager Variety Show
– 11:30 AM
- Mar. 10...Re-Enrollment Forms due
Midterm 5th Six Weeks
- Mar. 11-17...Spring Break Week
- Mar. 20...Classes Resume
- Mar. 21...PTLS Meeting – 6:30 PM
- Mar. 24...PSIA District Meet
- Mar. 27-31...Achievement Test Week
- Mar. 31...Giddings K-4 Field Day

The Voyager Voice

A weekly publication of
St. Paul Lutheran School – Serbin
Jim House, Principal
Home Phone 972-348-3980

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

From the Principal's Desk...

We're a week away from the annual **CHILI SUPPER & AUCTION**. Donations of auction items, meat, condiments, and baked goods are still needed. Contact PTLS officers or school office with questions.

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK will be celebrated March 5-11. Watch for information coming home regarding the various activities.

Plan to participate in the **ALL-SCHOOL SING** on March 5th. Return your slip on Monday!

Have a blessed week in the Lord! – 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, were sent home last week with each student in Kindergarten through



**Now RE-ENROLLING
current students for
the 2023-24 school year
(forms due Mar. 10th)**

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!

CHILI SUPPER, AUCTION, & COOKOFF... The annual St. Paul Chili Supper and Auction is only a little over a week away—*Sunday, March 5th* beginning at 4:00 PM. This year's event will also include the popular *Chili Cook-Off* (taste test and hands available onsite). Come for cook-off and silent auction and stay for the supper (limited tickets still available at the door) and live auction! Check out the event schedule listed later in this newsletter and on the school website. Invite your relatives, neighbors & friends and come for some FOOD, FUN, and FELLOWSHIP while supporting our Voyager PTLS!



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK . . . will be celebrated at St. Paul the week of **March 6-12** with a variety of special activities for students and families. Our students and staff will join with over 200,000 students attending over 1,885 Lutheran schools & pre-schools across America in this special celebration under the theme, **"In All Things"** based on Colossians 1:15-20. Watch for the flyer coming home today listing the various activities taking place during the week. We hope that you'll join us in giving thanks and celebrating the many blessings received by our children, families, and congregation through our Lutheran school.

Making Disciples for Life
NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK 2023
IN ALL THINGS



SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE . . . You are invited to learn more about our school ministry at St. Paul Lutheran by attending the **School Open House next Sunday, Mar. 5th following worship at 9:30-10:00 AM**. Come walkthrough the school, talk with our staff, and enjoy some refreshments and fellowship as you learn more about our program of instruction at St. Paul-Serbin.

LSW "ALL-SCHOOL SING" . . . We will kick-off our celebration of Lutheran Schools Week 2023 by **singing at the 8:30 AM worship service next Sunday, March 5th (arrive in gym @ 8:15 AM)**. A notice slip is coming home today; **please complete and return the slip to Mr. House on Monday, Feb. 27th**. Plan to join the students as they raise their voices in praise to our Lord.



CHILI SUPPER, AUCTION, & COOKOFF SCHEDULE . . .

- Here's the schedule for next Sunday's Chili Supper event:
- 4:00-5:30 PM – *Silent Auction (tables close beginning at 5:00 PM)*
 - 4:00-5:30 PM – *Chili Cook-Off tasting & judging*
 - 5:00-7:00 PM – *Chili Supper (limited meal tickets available at the door)*
 - 5:00 PM – *Bake Sale (until sold out)*
 - 5:30 PM – *Chili Cook-Off turn in*
 - 5:30-7:00 PM – *Live Auction*



WORKERS' LIST . . . was communicated to parents last week via phone call or text message, and is posted on the school website under the PTLs tab. If you have any questions, contact Tina Sommerfield 713-304-7059.

AUCTION DONATIONS . . . Donation of **items are still needed for both the live and silent auction**. Items can be dropped off at either the church or school office during the week or at the **gym this Sunday, February 26th at 10:15 AM to 1:00 PM**.

- We're also seeking **donations of condiments and meat** for the chili; we're also **accepting monetary donations** for purchase of food items.
- We're also in need of families to **donate baked items and desserts** for the Chili Supper. Desserts can be **brought to the kitchen during the day on Friday, March 3rd or on Sunday morning, March 5th** prior to the beginning of the event at 4:00 PM. If you can help with any donations, contact Patricia Barnert 512-581-1154, any PTLs officer, or the school office.

CHAPEL OFFERING PROJECT

During the next 12 weeks, our weekly chapel offerings will go to support the **L.C.C. Comfort Dog Ministry**. In our first offering last week, we **collected \$29.00**. The Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dogs are a bridge for compassionate ministry, opening doors for conversation about faith and creating opportunities to share the mercy, compassion,



presence and proclamation of Jesus Christ with people who are suffering and in need. Watch for more information forthcoming about this ministry, and remember your chapel offerings weekly and contribute generously supporting our worthy project.

READING CHALLENGE . . . We've

reached the halfway point of the Lutheran Schools Accelerated Reading Challenge. After four week, our Serbin students are currently in **7th Place** overall out of 38 schools—moving up 6 places this week! Parents, continue to encourage your kids to read toward their new 6-week AR goals! **Let's see how many AR points we can read between now and March 16th**. Points are recorded weekly on the national AR Challenge website; the winning schools will be announced after Spring



HAVE A BLESSED WEEK! . . . I

hope you enjoyed the unusually warm temperatures this week and look forward to wrapping up the month of February next 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

***St. Paul Lutheran PTLS
Chili Supper, Auction, and
Chili Cook-Off
Next Sunday!***

Date: Sunday March 5, 2023
Location: St. Paul, Serbin Picnic Grounds

Silent Auction: 4:00 - 5:30 P.M.
Meal: 5:00 - 7:00 P.M.
Bake Sale: 5:00 - Sold Out
Live Auction: 5:30 - 7:00 P.M.

Chili Cook-Off:

Cooks Meeting & Check - in: 1:00 P.M.
Chili Cook-Off Test & Judge: 4:00 - 5:30 P.M.
(\$10 test/judge armband available onsite)
Chili Cook-Off Turn-in: 5:30 P.M.

Limited Meal Tickets available at the door-\$7 Chili, \$5 Hot Dog
For more information Contact Patricia Barnett (512) 581-1154

Proceeds Benefit: Future Projects & Improvements for St. Paul
Lutheran School And Early Childhood Center!

**Come out for some Food, Fun, and Fellowship
while supporting our St. Paul PTLS!**



Only 2 Sunday's left to get tickets for the FLHS Spring Raffle!! 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. 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 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.

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.

New Scholarship Opportunity

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 2023. Applications are available from Mrs. Kueck or from Cyndy Zoch (cyndy.zoch@gmail.com) and are due May 1, 2023.

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**.