

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

Church 366-9650
School 366-9650 ECC 366-9650
Rev. S. 716-7632

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Church Address: 1572 CR 211 Giddings, TX 78942

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

2 February 2025

Welcome! *God Gives the Gift of a Child to Destroy Death.* The Lord opened the barren womb of Hannah and gave her the gift of the son for whom she prayed, and in grateful response she presented and gave the child, Samuel, to the Lord's service. "As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD" (1 Sam. 1:28). So, too, did Mary and Joseph present the Child promised from the fall, born of a virgin's womb. The true offering wasn't the turtledoves or young pigeons. It was the Child they carried. This Child has come to "destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery" (Heb. 2:14b-15). Set free by His advent in our flesh and the promise of what He would do "in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Heb. 2:17b), Simeon and Anna rejoiced. We also rejoice, for we, too, can face death unafraid and "depart in peace" (Luke 2:29) when our time comes.

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

PJ Albrecht (nephew of Willard Albrecht and Milton Albrecht)

Chris Birnbaum-recovering

Delvin Boriack-recovering

Dorothy Exner-recovering

Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)

Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)

Billy Krause-recovering

Vic Lohberg

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

Mildred Wachsmann-recovering (Mother of Peggy Wachsmann)

Laverne Weiser-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)

George Hernandez-recovering

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)

Ruby Maass (mother of Linda Schonhoeft)

Cannon Martin (nephew of Christopher Taylor)

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

Seasonal Weather

Those affected by disasters

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: 729, 842, 781 v. 1&2, 722, 784, 749, 922
Sermon Text: Jeremiah 1:4-19
The Sermon: “Set Apart”

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Irene Buscha’s 98th birthday by Robin, Sherri and Ralph Buscha.
- † **Altar flowers** are needed for Sunday, February 9th and February 16th. If you would like to place flowers on either of these Sunday’s please contact Lana Kaiser at 540-8011.
- † **Door Offering.** There will be a special door offering on Sunday, February 9th for the LCMS Wild Fire Relief Fund.
- † **2025 Elder Assignments:**
Michael Krause—Chairman – T-Z
Douglas Hartfield—Secretary – Mit-R
David Fritsche – S
Gary Oltmann – A-F
Timothy Weise – G-Ke
Keith Oltmann – Kf-Mie
- † **Trustees** will meet this Monday, February 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Packets are available to be picked up in the church office to review prior to the meeting.
- † **St. John Lutheran Church Ladies Aid Stew Dinner**, Sunday, February 9th. To-go Serving begins at 10:30 a.m. till sold out. \$12 for Stew & Cornbread. \$96 per gallon. Bring your jars, pots or Tupperware for us to fill! Don’t have one, don’t worry. We will have containers for you! Homemade Desserts Available – free will donation. Thank you for your support!
- † **Year End Contribution Statements** are available from the finance Co-Chairmen this morning. Please review your statement and if there are any errors, let the finance Co-Chairmen (Glen Albrecht or Mason Becker) know, or call the church office.
- † **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 Monday, February 3rd.
- † **The Serbin LWML** invites any confirmed women wishing to participate with any Lutheran Women in Mission events and activities. Please text or call Melodi Oltmann at 979-540-0039 for more information. We have big plans and ideas for 2025! No obligation for membership or monthly meetings are required - just having fun serving the Lord!
- † **St. Paul Serbin** will have an opening in its faculty for the 2025-2026 academic year for 3rd grade. Interested individuals who teach any subject area are encouraged to apply! Applicants may submit resumes to St. Paul Lutheran School: ATTN Kelsey Schatte 1578 County Road 211 Giddings, Texas 78942, or email them to kschatte@stpaulserbinschool.org. Please consider applying and sharing your gifts with our students. All resumes are due January 31st; interviews will be conducted after this date. Thank you!
- † **South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department** is preparing Barbecue Chicken on Sunday, February 23rd at the Serbin picnic grounds from 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon. The barbecue is to go only. Order forms are inserted in this morning’s bulletin. 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 17th.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, February 9th, “**We Have an Advocate.**” Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Where we might see only a problem, Jesus sees a person who needs an Advocate (John 5:6). 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.

Through the Church Year:

Purification of Mary and Presentation of Our Lord.

Epiphany IV

Ever since sinfulness first afflicted creation, labor and delivery sheds a mother’s blood. The Law of the Lord laments that this echo and threat of death operates right where human life emerges from. So, He intervenes with atonement to preserve that precious life. And Jesus embodies this opposition to abortion from the very beginning (Luke 2:22-24).

As we gather at the Lord's Table, we practice close communion. For the sake of responsible pastoral care, members should have previously announced their intent to commune today. Guests who are members of a sister LCMS church and any others having concerns about their participation are asked to speak with Pastor before communing.



THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**
 Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
 PTLS Chili Supper and Auction

Monday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
 Trustees Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
 LWML Quilting – 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday School Chapel – 8:30 a.m.
 Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.
 Adult Choir – 7:00 p.m.

Thursday Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.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: Lukas Iselt and Alice Gurka
 Greeter: Janet Oltmann

Birthdays: Today – Chris Miertschin; 3rd – Kathleen Bigon, Aaron Osborne, George Perry, Jr., David Schmidt; 4th – Ina Mitschke; 5th – Bernice Zoch; 6th – Teshia Becker, Wayne Zander; 7th – Ryland Miertschin, Anita Zoch, Kaitlynn Zoch; 8th – Virginia Hernandez, Cora Iselt, Shaun Jatzlau. God's Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Morning Worship- 269, Bible Class- 24; Sunday School- 36, Visitors- 3, Offering- \$21.00.

Offering Last Week: \$11,112.57

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$6,561.00	Mission	\$304.00
Sunday School	\$21.00	Mission Total	\$304.00
Lunch Room	\$575.00	Savings/Other:	
ECC Operating	\$1,187.57	Savings/Other Total	
Tuition	\$2,464.00		
Received 1/26/2025	\$10,808.57	Total	\$11,112.57
Est. needed per week	\$29,635.00		
Received MTD	\$118,759.13		
Est. needed per month	\$128,417.00		

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Alice Luedke by Calvin & Ina Mitschke - \$500.00. In memory of Jasmine Bailey by M/M Larry Schatte - \$50.00. **Texas Wendish Heritage Society:** In memory of Lawrence Richter by Milton & Geraldine Albrecht - \$50.00. In memory of Jasmine Bailey by Milton & Geraldine Albrecht - \$25.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Jamine Bailey by M/M Mark Arldt, Wyatt & Dylan - \$30.00

Serving today: **Elders**– David Fritsche and Gary Oltmann
Organist- Susan Michael
Acolytes- Trenton Grange and Cole Kalbas
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Craig Oltmann **Assistant**- Payton Oltmann
Ushers- Bradley Albrecht, Thomas Birnbaum, Seth Kalbas,
Caleb Oltmann, Chase Oltmann, Curtis Oltmann,
Gary Oltmann, Grant Oltmann, Nathan Michael
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Glen Albrecht
Pablo Rodriguez, Dan Marak, Virgil Becker



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.

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

This week’s schedule includes:

- Tuesday, February 4 - Basketball AT Concordia HS (at Zion Walberg gym), 6pm

You can visit our website to see all our athletic schedules. Come cheer on our Falcons!

Accreditation Survey

FLHS is currently working through the NLSA re-Accreditation process. As part of this process, we are conducting a survey from all supporters to evaluate how we are doing, and in what areas we could continue to grow. We would appreciate your participation in the survey. can be found on our website, Facebook page, or scan the QR code. Thank you for your feedback as FLHS continues to grow our ministry!



It

Spring Raffle

FLHS raffle tickets are now available! Tickets are \$20 each. Drawing will be the week of March 3-7, during National Lutheran Schools Week. Items on this year’s raffle include:

- 1) Stihl RZ142 Zero Turn Mower - Valued at \$4000
- 2) \$1500 Travel Voucher
- 3) 1/2 Cow With Processing
- 4) Savage Axis 7mm Deer Rifle with Scope - Valued at \$500
- 5) \$500 Visa Gift Card
- 6) Metal Patriotic Yard Sign
- 7) Porch Package with Ribeye Roll - Includes a 2 person outdoor steel glider/rocker, 5X7 outdoor rug, 16' round end table, and plant
- 8) Hand Crafted wooden train and Lone Star Back Roads Package
- 9) Casserole of the Month for a year
- 10) Dessert of the Month for a year

To see details about each package, please view our Facebook page. A limited number of tickets will be 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!!

Share the Gift of Love

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God’s love in a student’s high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.