

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
James L. House, Principal

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

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

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

10 March 2024

Welcome! *Jesus Is Lifted Up on the Cross so that We May Look to Him and Live.* The people sinned by speaking “against God and against Moses,” and the Lord called them to repentance by sending fiery serpents, which “bit the people, so that many people of Israel died” (Num. 21:4–6). When the people confessed their sin, the Lord provided a means of rescue from death. He instructed Moses to “make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole,” so that “if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live” (Num. 21:8–9). Thus, God sent His Son into the world, in the likeness of our sin and death, and lifted Him up on the pole of the cross, that whoever looks to Him in faith “may have eternal life” (John 3:14–16). By His cross, “the light has come into the world,” not for condemnation, but “that the world might be saved through him” (John 3:17–19). While we “were dead in the trespasses and sins” in which we once lived (Eph. 2:1), God loved us, calling us to repentance and raising us up with Christ to live “with him in the heavenly places” (Eph. 2:4–6). We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Geraldine Albrecht-recovering
Paul Albrecht-recovering
Royce Albrecht-recovering
Nancy Beckcom-recovering
Chris Birnbaum-recovering.
Trey Fritsche-recovering
Robert House (father of Jim House)
Stella Jackson-recovering
Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)
Judy Kalbas-hospitalized
Claudelle Krska (friend of Antionette Richardson)
Lyndy Krause-recovering
Teresa Krause-recovering
Cindy Umphries-recovering (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
Conway Whited-recovering (nephew of Brad & Ashley Schmidt)
Tim Weise-recovering
Ruby Weiser-recovering

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)
Devin Jackson (brother-in-law of Chris and Michelle Birnbaum)
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)
Karen Symm (sister of Michael Symm)
Martin Werchan
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, Israel

Those who mourn:

The family of Betty Dougherty (mother of Carol Sander)

Rain

Those affected wildfires in the panhandle

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: 918, 571, 781 v. 1&2, 566, 744

Sermon Text: Numbers 21:4-9

The Sermon: **“Are You Impatient?”**

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God, and given in recognition of the ministry of St. Paul Lutheran during this Lutheran School Week by Curtis Oltmann family.
- † **Congratulations** to Daniel and Haley Marak on the birth of a daughter, Myla Frankie Marak. She was born February 28, 2024 in Bryan, TX. She weighed 5 lbs. 5 ounces and was 19 ½ inches long. May God bless this growing family.
- † **Thank You!** The PTLs would like to say *THANK YOU* to all those that made the Chili Supper and Auction a success last Sunday. Thank you to those that purchased tickets, donated auction items/meat/baked goods, purchased items from the auctions, and to all our volunteers. The 3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off was enjoyed by all. Thank you to those that Sponsored, and to those that cooked and tasted all the delicious entries. God blessed us with a beautiful day, and our School & ECC are blessed to have such wonderful support from our congregation and community!
- † **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 Taylor 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.
- † **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.
- † **Texas Wendish Heritage Society’s Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser.** Sunday, March 17, 2024. Plates include: Fried Fish, homemade Potato Sald, Pinto Beans, Coleslaw & Hush Puppies. Pre-sale tickets available at the Texas Wendish Heritage Museum, First National Bank of Giddings and the Church Office. To reserve tickets: 979-366-2441 or museum@texaswendish.org. Drive-thru pick up only 10 AM – 12:30 PM at St. Paul Lutheran Church picnic grounds in Serbin. Stop by our Country Store to purchase desserts, dry Wendish noodles & more.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, March 17th, **“The Strangest Request”**. Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe. God promised to make Abraham the father of many nations through the gift of a son named Isaac. But then God asked Abraham to return that gift in a most shocking way. (Genesis 22:1-14). 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 Thoughts in the Church Year:

March 10 – Lent IV

Surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis come with risks and costs. But as with the ancient Israelite serpent infestation the real enemy is neither one’s neighbor nor the Maker (Numbers 21:8). Only impaling the snake (not terminating each other) brought deliverance, and the antidote called for faith instead of death. Christians insist God has sent us His Son for extending lives and not ending them (John 3:17).

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
 Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
 LYF Meeting & Social – 5:00 p.m.

Mon. – Fri. - **Spring Break – No School**

Tuesday Circuit Meeting @ Grace, Elgin – 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday **Lenten Worship – 7:00 p.m.**
Acolytes: Kenzie Stewart and Owen Wittman
Greeter: Lisa Schmidt
 Adut Choir – 7:45 p.m.

Friday **ECC Closed-Spring Break**

Next Sunday **Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**
 Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
 Acolytes: Jasmine Bailey and Everett Corn
 Greeter: Bonnie Wenke

Birthdays: Today – Kylie Schmidt, Timothy Symm; 12th – Johnny Bradshaw, Joshua Droegemueller, John Faske; 13th – Jason Becker, Ruth Kluetz, Alyssa Krause, Clayton Schroeder; 15th – Chris Becker. God’s Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

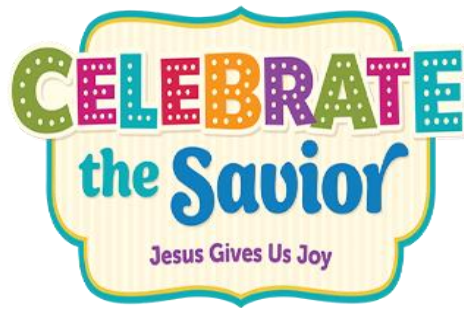
Attendance Last Week: Midweek Lent (2/28/2024)- 88, Morning Worship- 297, Communion- 134.

Offering Last Week: \$30,115.25

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$10,438.00	Mission	\$395.00
Lunch Room	\$1,452.00	Concordia St Louis	\$310.50
ECC Operating	\$7,839.25	Concordia Fr. Wayne	\$310.50
Tuition	\$9,110.00	Mission Total	\$1,016.00
Received 3/3/2024	\$28,839.25	Savings/Other:	
		School Fund	\$160.00
Est. needed per week	\$29,635.00	Building Frud	\$100.00
Received MTD	\$28,839.25	Savings/Other Total	\$260.00
Est. needed per month	\$128,417.00		
		Total	\$30,115.25

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Herman Gersch by Violet Hirsch - \$50.00. In memory of Josey Fajkus by Michael & Teresa Krause - \$50.00. **ECC Operating:** In memory of Josey Fajkus by Linda Jones - \$25.00; by Eldor & Lori Becker - \$20.00; by David & Karen Schmidt - \$25.00. **School Fund:** In memory of Josey Fajkus by David & Susan Michael - \$25.00; by Gary & Cindy Becker - \$50.00; by Wilbert & Carol Jean Noack - \$25.00; by Marvin & Charlyn Matthijetz - \$40.00; by Doris Fritsche - \$20.00. **Building:** In memory of Josey Fajkus by Curtis Oltmann family - \$100.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Josey Fajkus by Jason & Kristin Lehmann - \$100.00; by Darlene Schatte - \$25.00; by Delvin & Judy Boriack - \$25.00. **Texas Wendish Heritage Society:** In memory of Freddie Zoch by Carolyn Noack - \$25.00; by Linda Jones - \$25.00.

Serving today: **Elders**– David Fritsche and Gary Oltmann
Organist- Jack Wiederhold
Acolytes- Kelton Schulze and Hudson Short
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Craig Oltmann **Assistant**- Payton Oltmann
Ushers- Bradley Albrecht, Thomas Birnbaum, Seth Kalbas,
 Chase Oltmann, Gary Oltmann, Grant Oltmann,
 David Michael, Nathan Michael, Austin Schmidt
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Rex Perry
 Nathan Michael, Virgil Becker, Tim Symm



REGISTER NOW for VBS 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! **Register before APRIL 1st to receive a FREE VBS t-shirt!** You will be able to pick up your VBS shirt on the first day of VBS.

Volunteer for VBS- Please let Krista Rodriguez know if you would like to assist with VBS this Summer. (979-716-0143)



New Student Registration

Registration for 2024-2025 is underway. Four new students have already enrolled and we are looking to add more students to our family. You can receive registration materials by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at www.flhstx.org.

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) and are due May 1, 2024.

Spring Break

March 11-15 is Spring Break at FLHS. We will have limited office hours throughout the week as we prepare for the final push of the school year.

Spring Raffle Success

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Spring Raffle. Congratulations to this year's winners!! This year's ticket sales totaled over \$27,000!! Thank you for your support!!

FLHS Annual Good Friday Bake Sale

Faith Lutheran High School will be hosting its Annual Good Friday Bake Sale on March 29th at the Classic Bank parking lot in Giddings! Cookies, pies, cakes, kolaches, cinnamon rolls, homemade noodles, homemade bread, and more will be available from 8 AM till noon, or until we sell out.

BAKERS ARE NEEDED! We need your help to make this event a success! Donations of any type of baked goods or homemade treats are welcome!

DROP OFF LOCATIONS! You may drop off donations on Wednesday and Thursday, March 27th and 28th, at Faith Lutheran High School, at Medack and Oltmann in Giddings, at Schiavone and Bamsch in La Grange, or you can contact us at (979) 242-2889 to make other arrangements. Thanks for your continued support of Faith Lutheran High School!

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**.

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 March 10-16, 2024

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar. 11-15...Spring Break Week
- Mar. 18...Classes Resume
- Mar. 24...Confirmation Sunday
- Mar. 28...End of 5th Six-Weeks
Maundy Thursday Chapel
Service 8:30 AM
School Easter Egg Hunt
– 11:00 AM
Early Dismissal – 11:45 AM
- Mar. 29...Good Friday – NO SCHOOL
- Apr. 1...Easter Monday – NO SCHOOL
- Apr. 5...Giddings K-4 Field Day
- Apr. 12...Science Night of Family
Fun – 5:30-7:30 PM



The Voyager Voice

A weekly publication of
St. Paul Lutheran School – Serbin
Jim House, Principal
Home Phone: 972-948-3890

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

From the Principal's Desk . . .

Remember...**Re-Enrollment Forms** for 2024-25 were due last Friday (3/8). If you failed to return your form by the deadline, please do so immediately following Spring Break.

Remember—**Daylight Saving Time begins** this Sunday, March 10th. Set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night!

Consider making a donation of candy for the upcoming **Easter Egg Hunt** on March 28th. Check out the **Donation Form** attached to the newsletter email and **return it by Monday** (3/18).

Keep working on those Science Night of Family Fun projects over Spring Break—SNFF is coming up in April!

Have a safe & blessed Spring Break Week! ~ Jim House, Principal

NEWS, NOTES, and HAPPENINGS



SPRING BREAK . . . Next week, *March 11-15*, is **Spring Break Week** at St. Paul Lutheran. We hope the cooler, winter weather is behind us and everyone will be able to enjoy a week of springlike weather and outdoor activities. **There will be no classes next week.** Classes will resume on *Monday, March 18th* at 8:00 AM. Have a safe and enjoyable Spring Break Week!

RE-ENROLLMENT FORMS . . . We're still waiting on several families to return their 2024-25 Re-Enrollment Forms. The deadline for returning these forms was *last Friday, March 8th*. Remember, everyone is required to return the form, even if your re-enrollment plans are undecided at this time. If you misplaced your form, additional forms are available on the school website. We need to know your plans so that staffing decisions can be made for the next school year. **Please return your form by March 18th** without fail. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

NEW ENROLLMENTS . . . Applications are now available for new families who wish to enroll for the first time at St. Paul Lutheran School in the 2024-25 school year. Yesterday's Kindergarten Round-Up was very successful and several new families are interest in enrollment. If you have a friend, relative, or neighbor who desires a quality, Christian education for their child, pass this word along and encourage them to enroll at St. Paul Lutheran School.



EASTER EGG HUNT. . . The annual St. Paul Lutheran Easter Egg Hunt will be held on *Thursday, March 28th at 11:00 AM.* Students in Grades K-2 will hunt eggs on the playground. Gr. 3-5 hunt eggs at the Log Cabin, and Gr. 6-7 hunt at the Picnic Grounds. We ask that our school families help us make the egg hunt a success by donating individually wrapped candies for the event. Or, if you prefer, you can make a cash donation that we can use to purchase items for the hunt. To help us with planning the event, please complete and return the Egg Hunt Donation Form attached to this newsletter email by Monday, Mar. 18th (following Spring Break). All donations should be brought to the school office by Friday, Mar. 22nd. Thanks in advance for your donations!



PSIA SUCCESS! . . Congratulations to all our Voyager student on their fine showing at the PSIA District Meet on Feb. 23rd. Our *54 students won a total of 62 ribbons* competing in 96 events. Eight students won either 1st or 2nd Place in their events and qualified for participation at the State PSIA Meet in late April. They include: *Tyler Fritsche (8), Cooper Hinze (8), Elijah Kueck (8), Miriam Meyer (8), Elizabeth Richardson (8), Max Sommerfield (6), Madilyn Kalbas (5), Avery Moore (5), Macy Sommerfield (4).* A list of all the participants and their places is attached to this week's newsletter email. Again, kudos to all our kids on their PSIA success!



AR CHALLENGE RESULTS. . . Our Voyager kids did a fantastic job reading toward their AR goals in the recent National Lutheran AR Reading Challenge held before Spring Break. We competed against 37 other Lutheran schools from across the country—and *St. Paul-Serbin finished in 7th place nationally!* Individual class rankings are as follows: 1st Grade—3rd Place, 2nd Grade—17th Place, 3rd Grade—6th Place, 4th Grade—11th Place, 5th Grade—11th Place, 6th Grade—1st Place, 7th Grade—10th Place, 8th Grade—4th Place. Way to go Voyagers! Now finish the school year strong—reach your AR reading goals in April and May!



**Have a Safe
and Blessed
Spring Break!**

HAVE A BLESSED SPRING BREAK!

Here's wishing everyone a safe, healthy, and enjoyable Spring Break Week!

Your partner in Christ,
James L. House, Principal



A SUCCESSFUL EVENT. . . Thanks to everyone who helped make our 2024 PTL'S Chili Supper, Auction & Cook-Off a huge success! The weather was beautiful, the crowd was large, and the chili was delicious! Preliminary numbers indicate that we turned a tidy profit—our *Live and Silent Auction proceeds totaled around \$39,800*—more information will be shared after Spring Break. Special thanks to Patricia Barnett and her committee for the excellent job done with this year's event!



CHAPEL OFFERING PROJECT

Our weekly chapel offerings for the final trimester will go to support the ministry of *Bec's Blessing Assisted Living Center* in Giddings. To date, we've *collected \$262.35* for the project. Remember your chapel offerings every Wednesday and contribute generously in support of our worthy project.



SCIENCE NIGHT OF FAMILY FUN

. . During March, students in Gr. 3-8 will be working on their projects and investigations for our "Science Night of Family Fun" scheduled for April 12th. Kids, Spring Break is the perfect 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 12th!

