

# 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](mailto:st.paulserbin@verizon.net)  
Church Address: 1572 CR 211 Giddings, TX 78942

## The Third Sunday in Lent

12 March 2023

**Welcome! We Worship the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Spirit and Truth of His Gospel.** Though the Lord had brought them out of Egypt, “all the congregation of the people of Israel” grumbled against Him because “there was no water for the people to drink” (Ex. 17:1). Despite their quarreling, the Lord graciously provided for them. He did not strike the people for their sins, but by the hand of Moses He struck the rock instead and brought forth water for the people. In the same way, living water flows from the pierced side of Christ at “about the sixth hour” (John 4:6; 19:14), when He is lifted up on the cross for the sins of the world. He is “the gift of God” (John 4:10), the well from which the Holy Spirit is poured out and becomes in His people “a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:14). By this grace in which we stand, being at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, we “worship the Father in spirit and truth” (John 4:23). “We rejoice in hope of the glory of God” because “God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us” (Rom. 5:2, 5). We invite you all to worship with us again.

\*\*\*\*\*

### In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

*Gail Albrecht-recovering*  
*Gladys Arldt*  
*Chris Birnbaum-recovering*  
*Richardson*  
*Hudson Corn-recovering*  
*Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)*  
*Evelyn Kaiser*  
*Judy Kalbas-at home*  
*Chris Miertschin*  
*Shannon Miertschin*  
*Keeley Schautschick-recovering*  
*Andrew Short-recovering*  
*Greg Sorrento-recovering (nephew of Doris Fritsche)*  
*and Pam Krause*  
*Cindy Umphries-recovering (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)*  
*Ruby Weiser-hospitalized*

### 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)*  
*Cherie Todee-sister of Carrie Oltmann*  
*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 Melinda Cobb (sister-in-law of William Kappler)*  
*The family of Gus Mutscher (great uncle of Frances Mutscher)*  
*The family of Gene Fritsche (brother-in-law of Ruby Weiser)*

### 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: 699, 823, 781 v. 1&2, 761, 423

Sermon Text: John 4:5-26

The Sermon: **“Does He Care?”**

Adult Choir Anthem: ♪ *“O, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”*

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in loving memory of Frieda Noack by Wilbert & Carol Jean Noack and Arthur & Dianna Noack.
- † **THANK YOU!** The PTLs would like to say \*THANK YOU\* to all those that made the Chili Supper and Auction a success last Sunday. We had another record-breaking year from the Live Auction! Thank you to those that purchased tickets, donated auction items, meat or baked goods, purchased items from the auctions, and to all our volunteers. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off was enjoyed by all as well. Thank you 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!
- † **2022 Annual.** The 2022 Annual is available from the ushers this morning and in the church office.
- † **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](mailto:museum@texaswendih.org). All proceeds benefit the Texas Wendish Heritage Society.
- † **Easter Lilies.** The LWML is taking orders for Easter lilies to decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning. The order form is included in the bulletin. Orders are due by **Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**. **Due to availability, no orders will be accepted after April 7<sup>th</sup>**. The cost of the lilies is \$12.00 each.
- † **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 is a great way to represent St. Paul to our visitors.

**LUTHERAN HOUR:** Next Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, **“Bad Karma vs. Good Creator.”** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. When bad things happen, is it “bad karma” or an opportunity for our Good Creator to be doing a greater work? (John 9:3). 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.

**Birthdays: Today** – Johnny Bradshaw, Joshua Droegemueller, John Faske; 13<sup>th</sup> – Jason Becker, Ruth Kluetz, Alyssa Krause, Clayton Schroeder; 15<sup>th</sup> – Chris Becker; 16<sup>th</sup> – Evelyn Kaiser; 18<sup>th</sup> – David Fritsche. God’s Blessings to you.

### **Life Thoughts in the Church Year:**

#### **March 12 – Lent III**

Jesus delights to invite the Samaritan woman into His fellowship and forgiveness for her sordid past (John 4:1-18). So He has received each of us, notwithstanding our mistakes and failures. And so He insists we know the joy and hope of explicitly articulating the same grace to any who suffer the guilt and grief of aborting their own children. He holds their lives as precious as those already lost.

**Serving today:** Elders– Douglas Hartfield and Michael Krause  
**Organist-** Jack Wiederhold  
**Acolytes-** Lydia Goodson and Owen Wittman  
**Head Usher-** Donald Becker  
**Captain-** Michael Becker **Assistant-** Shelby Becker  
**Ushers-** Glen Albrecht, Wyatt Arldt, Virgil Becker,  
 Jace Heuermann, Clay Mertink, Cody Mertink,  
 Cole Mertink, Rusty Mertink, Robert Zoch  
**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.  
 Mon. – Fri. **No School – Spring Break**  
 Tuesday Circuit Meeting - @ Grace, Elgin – 9:00 a.m.  
 Wednesday **Lenten Worship Service – 7:00 p.m.**  
 Acolytes: Tucker Kalbas and Kaden Kasper  
 Greeter: Irene Hempel  
 Adult 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: Brooke Lehmann and Grant Oltmann  
 Greeter: Joyce Hinze  
 Wendish Fish Fry

**ST. PAUL NOTES:**

**Attendance Last Week:** Midweek Lent (3/01/2023)- 94, Morning Worship- 294, Communion- 152.

**Offering Last Week:** \$34,829.83

<b>Home:</b>		<b>Mission:</b>	
General	\$13,378.25	Mission	\$675.00
Lunch Room	\$1,284.50	Lent Offering (3/01/2023)	\$737.00
ECC Operating	\$7,625.12	<b>Mission Total</b>	<b>\$1,412.00</b>
Tuition	\$8,445.00	<b>Savings/Other:</b>	
<b>Received 3/27/2011</b>	<b>\$30,732.87</b>	Organ Restoration	\$2,684.96
		<b>Savings/Other Total</b>	<b>\$2,684.96</b>
<b>Est. needed per week</b>	<b>\$27,230.00</b>		
<b>Received MTD</b>	<b>\$30,732.87</b>	Total	\$34,829.83
<b>Est. needed per month</b>	<b>\$118,000.00</b>		

**MEMORIALS: General:** In memory of Don Claxton by Doug & Mary Jatzlau – \$25.00. In memory of Leroy Grimm and Tommy Novosad, Jr. by Martin & Jeannie Werchan - \$100.00. **Mission:** In memory of Alfred Bohot by Marvin Lorenz - \$25.00.

† **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.



### **New Student Registration**

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is underway. Three 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 24, 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](http://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**.

### **Spring Break**

March 13-17 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.

### **National Lutheran Schools Week**

Thank you for your continued support of Lutheran Education. As we wrap up National Lutheran Schools Week, we are grateful for the opportunity to join with almost 2,000 Lutheran schools and pre-schools across the nation and world who share our mission of sharing the message of Christ with our students each day! Thank you for enabling and allowing us to do this great work for Him!

### **Spring Raffle Success**

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Spring Raffle. Congratulations to this year's winners!! This year's raffle was able to raise over \$23,000 to support the growing ministry at FLHS!! Thank you!!

### **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](mailto:cyndy.zoch@gmail.com)) and are due May 1, 2023.

# 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 March 12-18, 2023

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

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar. 10...Re-Enrollment Forms due  
Midterm 5<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks
- Mar. 13-17...Spring Break Week
- Mar. 20...Classes Resume
- Mar. 21...PTLS Meeting – 6:30 PM
- Mar. 22...School Chapel Service  
– 8:30 AM
- Mar. 24...PSIA District Meet
- Mar. 27-31...Achievement Test Week
- Mar. 31...Giddings K-4 Field Day  
12:00-3:00 PM  
PTLS “Pizza & Movie  
Night” – 6:30 PM
- Apr. 2...Confirmation Sunday
- Apr. 6...End of 5<sup>th</sup> Six-Weeks  
Maundy Thursday Chapel  
Service – 8:30 AM  
School Easter Egg Hunt  
11:00 AM  
Early Dismissal – 11:45 AM  
Distribution of 5<sup>th</sup> Six-Week  
Report Cards
- Apr. 7...Good Friday – NO SCHOOL
- Apr. 10...Easter Monday – NO SCHOOL

## The Voyager Voice

A weekly publication of  
St. Paul Lutheran School – Serbin  
Jim House, Principal  
Home Phone 972-948-3980

### Our Mission

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

## From the Principal's Desk . . .

Remember...**Re-Enrollment Forms** for 2023-24 were due last Friday (3/10). If you failed to return your form by that deadline, please do so immediately following Spring Break.

Remember—**Daylight Saving Time begins** this Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night!

**PTLS Meeting** on Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>. Plan to attend; election of officers.

**PSIA District Meet** is planned for March 24<sup>th</sup> at Immanuel-Giddings. Keep preparing for your events over Spring Break!

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

## NEWS, NOTES, and HAPPENINGS



**SPRING BREAK** . . . Next week, *March 13-17, 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 springtime weather and outdoor activities. *There will be no classes next week.* Classes will resume *on Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 AM.* Have a safe and enjoyable Spring Break Week!

**RE-ENROLLMENT FORMS** . . . We're still waiting on several families to return their 2023-24 Re-Enrollment Forms. The deadline for returning these forms was **FRIDAY, March 10<sup>th</sup>**. 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 20<sup>th</sup>** 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 2023-24 school year. Last Thursday'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.



**5<sup>th</sup> SIX WEEKS MIDTERM.** . Friday marked Midterm for the 5<sup>th</sup> Six-Weeks. Students will receive *Midterm Progress Reports* when we return from Spring Break (week of March 20<sup>th</sup>). As we begin to wind down the 2022-23 school year, now's a great time to check your financial account to see that your tuition and other fees are paid up-to-date! Contact the school office with any questions regarding your account. Your cooperation is appreciated!

**PTLS MEETING.** . Mark your calendars and plan to attend the March meeting of the St. Paul PTLS on *Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM.* The 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade families will serve as host families that evening. One of the items of business that evening will be *election of Vice President and Treasurer for 2023-2024.* Watch for the meeting agenda coming home during Spring Break and plan to attend!



**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 38 other Lutheran schools from across the country—and *St. Paul-Serbin finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place nationally!* Individual class rankings are as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade-7<sup>th</sup> Place, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade 7<sup>th</sup> Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade 7<sup>th</sup> Place, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade 10<sup>th</sup> Place, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade-9<sup>th</sup> Place, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade 12<sup>th</sup> Place, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade-8<sup>th</sup> Place. Way to go Voyagers! Now finish the school year strong—reach your AR reading goals in April and May!

**PSIA COMPETITION.** . Our Voyager students will compete in the annual Private School Interscholastic Association (PSIA) District Meet on *Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>* at Immanuel-Giddings. *Watch for your schedules and pre-event information coming home today with all student participants and parent volunteers.* If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Bradshaw.



**ACHIEVEMENT TESTING.** . Our annual ITBS Achievement Test Week is planned for the week of *March 27-31.* We encourage parents to avoid scheduling doctor's appointments or other absences from school during this week if at all possible to avoid disruption of the testing. Your cooperation is much appreciated!



**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 2023 PTLS 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 \$48,761.00* more information will be shared at the PTLS Meeting on Mar. 21<sup>st</sup> after Spring Break. Special thanks to Patricia Barnett and her committee for the excellent job done with this year's event!



**CHAPEL OFFERING PROJECT**

During the next 12 weeks, our weekly chapel offerings will go to support the *LCC Comfort Dog Ministry.* After three weeks, we *collected \$111.50.* 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. Remember your chapel offerings weekly and contribute generously in support of our worthy project.



**EASTER EGG HUNT.** . The annual St. Paul Lutheran Easter Egg Hunt will be held on *Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 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, March 27<sup>th</sup>.* All donations should be brought to the school office *by Friday, Mar. 31<sup>st</sup>.* Thanks in advance for your donations!



