

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



Rev. John Schmidt, Pastor  
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

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## The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

14 September 2025

**Welcome! The Exaltation of the Holy Cross.** “Sir, we wish to see Jesus” (John 12:21). Then look to His holy cross. For just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness, so Jesus, when He is “lifted up from the earth, will draw all people” to Himself (John 12:32). “He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross” to save us (Phil. 2:8). “Everyone who is bitten” by the ancient serpent’s venom of sin, “when he sees” Christ “shall live” (Num. 21:8). The true holy cross is lost to history, and we cannot return to Calvary to find our salvation. So, Christ brings the New Testament in His blood to us. “We preach Christ crucified .... the power of God and the wisdom of God,” though foolishness to the unbelieving world (1 Cor. 1:23–24). It pleases God, “through the folly” of the cross we preach, “to save those who believe” (1 Cor. 1:21). We find the fruit and benefit of this holy cross poured out in Holy Baptism, spoken in the preaching of Holy Absolution, and delivered in the body and blood given and shed there for us. Thus are we strengthened to take up our crosses, sanctified by His (John 12:25–26). We invite you all to worship with us again.

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### In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Wayne Becker-recovering

Monroe Brade (uncle of James, Johnny, Larry & Leroy  
Kalbas)

Ginger Clifford-recovering (sister of Nancy Kasper)

Dorothy Exner-recovering

Herbert Handrick (uncle of Shannon Handrick)

Cindy Hardy-hospitalized (cousin of Harold Krause)

Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)

Seth Kalbas-recovering

Ruth Kluetz-recovering

Billy Krause-recovering

Vic Lohberg

Ruby Maass-recovering (mother of Linda Schonhoeft)

Ruben Melcher-recovering (uncle of James, Johnny,  
Larry & Leroy Kalbas))

Chris Miertschin-recovering

Naomi Mumm-recovering

Gene Namken-recovering (brother of Linda Oltmann)

Richard Schonhoeft-recovering

Barbara Schmidt-recovering

Camie Smiley-recovering (friend of Thomas Birnbaum)

David Wachsmann (cousin of Billy Krause)

Irene Zoch-recovering (mother of Donnie Zoch)

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

#### Those fighting cancer including:

Teresita Brodrick (aunt of David Wittman)

Vernon Bryant (friend of Arthur & Dianna Noack)

Brandon Cleland (brother of Sonya Schautschick)

Ralph & Debbie Domel (sister & brother-in-law of Mary  
Jatzlau)

Sherri Fritsche

Christie Hall (friend of Mark Arldt)

Dana Herzog (niece of Becky Weise)

Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

Betty Jenkins (mother of Jared Jenkins)

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)

Jensyn Lesikar (nephew of Kasey Rosales)

Suzanne Mogonye-recovering (mother of Lindsey Hansen)

Cannon Martin (nephew of Christopher Taylor)

Kelli Meinholdt (sister of Carie Oltmann)

Rhonda Mitschke (friend of Christi Fritsche)

Valerie Namken-(sister-in-law of Linda Oltmann, aunt of  
Chris Birnbaum)

Walter Rehle (friend of the Arldt's from Germany)

Carol Sander

Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Karen Symm (sister of Michael Symm)

Christopher Taylor

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

Dylan Robbins (cousin of Michelle Birnbaum) Jacksonville,  
North Carolina

Aron Marak (nephew of Mike and Susie Maass) Fr. Bragg,  
North Carolina

Kyler Brown (friend of Dorthy Schautschick) U.S. Navy-  
Bahrain

Benjamin Symm-Training Camp Johnson, North Carolina

Jacob Droegemueller Ft. Eisenhower, Georgia

Corey Pedeville (friend of Dorothy Schautschick) Army-  
serving in Saudia Arabia

Brittany Loudon (daughter of Bryan and Antoinette

Winkles) Navy, stationed in Florida

### Seasonal Weather

**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**— 184 of the hymnal

The Hymns: 611, 609, 781 v. 1&2, 709, 740

Sermon Text: Ezekiel 34:11-24

The Sermon: **“Let Me Do It!”**

- † **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Stephen & Nancy Kasper's Wedding Anniversary by Kyle, Laurie, & Kaden.
- † **Special Voters Meeting Minutes.** There was a Special Voters Meeting after the Service on Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>, to approve the Concordia Plan rates for 2026. A quorum was reached. The information on the Concordia Plan shared, the vote was taken and it was approved to take the Healthy Me HSAB plan for 2026.
- † **LWML.** Thanks to all who donated items for Orphan Grain Train. Our quilting group even completed 87 quilts to be distributed. What a wonderful display of service from our congregation!
- † **Wanted: Greeters!** Looking for a fun and easy way to serve your church? Become a Greeter! Contact Deanna Miertschin at (979) 540-0472.
- † **Portals of Prayer.** October-December Portals of Prayer are available from the ushers this morning or in the church office.
- † **Fried Chicken Dinner:** Just a reminder to pick up your fried chicken dinner plates from the St. Paul Lutheran Church Adult Fellowship today at the Serbin Picnic Grounds from 10:00-12:00. Thank you for your support!
- † **Young Adult Conference – October 3–5.** Join us for a weekend of worship, fellowship, and learning as we explore how Lutheran theology brings clarity and peace in a chaotic world. Designed for young adults (ages 18–35), the conference will include sessions on evangelism, cultural engagement, and bold Christian living, along with worship services and Q&A with Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller. Cost is \$10 – register online now! <https://splcaustin.regfox.com/christian-comfort-in-a-chaotic-cosmos>
- † **Wreaths Across America.** We will again be participating in National Wreaths Across America Day on Saturday, December 13, 2025. We have 100 Veterans that will have wreaths placed on their graves. Please consider sponsoring a wreath(s) in memory of or in honor of Veterans so that we can honor all our Veterans at Christmas. **Cost of a wreath is \$17.00.**
- † **WENDISH FEST:** The 37th Annual Wendish Fest will be hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Texas Wendish Heritage Society on Sunday, September 28, 2025 in Serbin, Texas. Guest speakers for the 8:30 English Church Service and the 10:30 German Church Service will be Pastor Roland Ziegler, Pastor John Schmidt, St. Paul Serbin (English Liturgy), and Pastor Christopher Ahlman (German Liturgy). Church tours will be offered at 12:30 & 1:30p.m. The day will offer lots of Wendish history, heritage, culture and family activities at the St. Paul Picnic Grounds. Tickets for the traditional Wendish noon meal will go on sale at 10:30 a.m. Adults are \$15 and children \$6. To-Go and drive-thru will also be available at 9:30 – all take-out meals are \$15. The joy of polka music will be shared throughout the day by the Jodie Mikula Orchestra, and students of St. Paul Lutheran School will present Ptači Kwas (Wendish Bird Wedding). The Texas Wendish Heritage Museum Complex will feature Wendish folkways, demonstrations and exhibits, a German Christmas Market and the traditional decorated Wendish Easter Egg demonstrations and sales. Research and genealogy assistance will be available. Wendish Fest is made possible through the work of many volunteers. We appreciate each and every one! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the museum or Katy Kasper. For information contact 979-366-2441 or [museum@texaswendish.org](mailto:museum@texaswendish.org) or [www.texaswendish.org](http://www.texaswendish.org)

**LUTHERAN HOUR:** Next Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, **“Someone Worth Having”**. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. We lost God’s name along the way, but God found us and gave us the Name by which we can know Him: Jesus-“God saves.” (Numbers 6:27). 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.

**Life Thoughts in the Church Year:**

## September 14 – Holy Cross

Jesus made His cross a decidedly public proclamation, lifted up and appealing to everyone (John 12:32). Christianity knows nothing of private convictions and personal choices. We get to speak openly, courageously, and compassionately that no other deliverance exists (Psalm 40:10), not even abortion or assisted suicide. Every human life belongs to Him alone who has drawn all unto Himself.

### THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today	<b>Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.</b> Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. LYF Meeting & Social – 2:00 p.m. LAF Fried Chicken Dinner
Monday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m. ECC Parent/Teacher Conferences Dev/V Volleyball game – 4:00/5:00 p.m. at home
Tuesday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 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. V Volleyball game – 5:00 p.m. at home
Friday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m. Donuts w/dads – 7:15 a.m.
Next Sunday	<b>Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.</b> Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Acolytes: Lucy Gurka and Madilyn Kalbas Greeter: Dorothy Schautschick Sunday School Teachers Meeting – 10:15 a.m.

**Birthdays: Today** – Ryleigh Bailey, Joyce Hinze; 15<sup>th</sup> – Casey Gurka, Kyle Jenke, Allen Kaiser; 16<sup>th</sup> – Amy Billig, Judy Boriack, Ryan Henderson, James Kalbas, Pamela Schmidt; 17<sup>th</sup> – Shane Corn, Rachel Schautschick, Nicholas Taylor; 18<sup>th</sup> – Max Faske, Loryn Henderson, Melinda Kruase, Florene Werchan; 19<sup>th</sup> – Danielle Jones, Sara Miertschin, Tommy Wilkins; 20<sup>th</sup> – Gail Albrecht, Mary Ann Prellop, Arthur Urban. God's Blessings to you.

### ST. PAUL NOTES:

**Attendance Last Week:** Morning Worship- 252, Communion- 159, Sunday School- 33, Banner Classes: Grade 6 & Grade 8, Offering- \$20.00.

**Offering Last Week:** \$85,693.87

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$29,699.69	Mission	\$1,073.80
Sunday School	\$20.00	<b>Mission Total</b>	<b>\$1,073.80</b>
Lunch Room	\$2,930.10	<b>Savings/Other:</b>	
ECC Operating	\$11,321.50	Building Fund	\$1,000.00
Tuition	\$36,648.78	<b>Savings/Other Total</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Received 9/7/2025</b>	<b>\$80,620.07</b>		
		Total	\$82,693.87
<b>Est. needed per week</b>	<b>\$31,870.00</b>		
<b>Received MTD</b>	<b>\$80,620.07</b>		
<b>Est. needed per month</b>	<b>\$138,103.00</b>		

**MEMORIALS: General:** In memory of Michael Mitschke's birthday by Calvin & Ina Mitschke - \$2,500.00. In memory of Sonny Supak by Doug & Mary Jatzlau – \$50.00

**Serving today: Elders**– Keith Oltmann and Tim Weise

**Organist**- Jack Wiederhold

**Acolytes**- Nathen Barnett and Ryleigh Bailey

**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, Owen Wittman, Robert Zoch

**Counting and Posting offering this week:**

**Chairman**- Glen Albrecht

Brooks Kasper, Dan Marak

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### **Volleyball Season Underway**

The Falcons girls volleyball season is underway. Our next game is Tuesday, September 16th, at 5:30pm at Valor South Austin (11720 S Mopac Expy, Austin, TX 78739). The full volleyball schedule is available on our website (including one more home game this season).

### **Free Wednesday mornings?**

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday. Pastor Josh Hahn, Immanuel, Giddings, will be leading chapel this week, beginning at 11:05 am.

### **Oktoberfest Meal Tickets**

Tickets for our annual Oktoberfest meal are now available! The meal includes schnitzel, noodles, green beans, potato salad, kraut, bread and coffee cake. Plated meals will be available on Saturday, October 25th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Holy Cross Picnic Grounds for dine in or carry out. Tickets are \$15 each and available for pre-sale only! Talk to a FLHS student, staff, board, or delegate today!!

### **Oktoberfest!**

FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 25th. It is going to be a great day - you aren't going to want to miss this! Find our Facebook event, or see our flier for all the details about the day!

### **Battle of the... Competition !**

**The Battle of the Vines and Brew**, our home brew competitions, are back so start planning your brews now, in addition to our newest competition, **Sapientia Infiniti** (see description below).

### **Sapientia Infiniti (infinite wisdom)**

Spend this year preparing an infinity bottle\* of whiskey for yourself at home. Please submit a pint or half-pint of this bottle for judging. Submissions will be judged, by our judges and the attendees, in separate categories.\* Infinity Bottle rules: start with a clean, empty bottle. Throughout the year, add a pour of any size from the whiskeys you've enjoyed this year. KEEP NO RECORD! The infinity bottle is intended to be unique to you and unrepeatable.

### **Thrivent Action Team Grants**

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact Nikki Kueck by calling (979) 242-2889. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school. \*We are beginning to gather grants for our Oktoberfest event on October 25th.

### **Follow Us On Facebook!**

With a new school year underway, you may want to see the exciting things happening inside here on a daily basis! By "liking" our Facebook page and "sharing" our posts, you will be in the loop on all the great things happening and sharing Faith with your friends as well. If you're not on social media, head to our website (flhstx.org) which is updated regularly as well.