

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 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

17 September 2023

Welcome! *Forgiving as the Lord Forgives Us.* In settling His accounts with us, our Lord acts not with anger, but with compassion. He does not imprison us as we deserve, but He forgives all our debts and releases us (Matt. 18:23–27). Therefore, our Lord bids each of us to have “mercy on your fellow servant” and “forgive your brother from your heart” (Matt. 18:33, 35). By the Lord’s forgiveness of our sins, we are free to forgive those who sin against us, because He has been handed over to the jailers in our stead and He has paid our entire debt with His lifeblood. Whether we live or die, we “are the Lord’s” (Rom. 14:8). Since we all will “stand before the judgment seat of God,” we are not to despise our brother (Rom. 14:10), but gladly forgive him. By the grace of God, our brother also “will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand” (Rom. 14:4). Though we daily sin against each other, the Lord intends “to bring it about that many people should be kept alive” (Gen. 50:20). Jesus speaks kindly by His Gospel and promises: “I will provide for you and your little ones” (Gen. 50:21).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

- Royce Albrecht-surgery
- Marvin Bamsch-rehab center (brother of Charlyn Matthijetz)
- Chris Birnbaum
- Jackie Handrick-recovering
- Robert House-healing from a fall (father of Jim House)
- Roselie Johnson-recovering (mother of Carie Oltmann)
- Judy Kalbas-recovering
- Dennis Kurio-recovering (brother of Kathleen Bigon and uncle of Kyle Jenke)
- Naomi McDonald (daughter of Rev. David & Kathy Mumm)
- Chris Miertschin
- Shannon Miertschin
- Ethan Ray-recovering
- Kelsey Schatte-pre term pregnancy concerns
- Greg Sorrento-recovering (nephew of Doris Fritsche)
- Cindy Umphries-recovering (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
- Arthur Urban-recovering from fall that broke 5 ribs
- Jeannie Werchan-surgery

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)
- Ginger Clifford (sister of Nancy Kasper)
- Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

- Brenda Karisch (friend of Bonnie Wenke family)
- Matt Kelley (Hinze family member)
- 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)
- Cannon Martin (nephew of Christopher Taylor)
- Gladys Mathena (sister of Frances Miertschin and Marilyn Miertschin)
- Rhonda Mitschke (friend of Christi Fritsche)
- Deborah Richards (sister-in-law of Zelda Richards)
- Carol Sander
- Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
- Cherie Todee-sister of Carrie Oltmann)
- 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) Jacksonville, NC
- Randall Weise (grandson of Bernice Doebbler) Ft. Huachuca, Arizona
- Peyton Walker (son of Heather Mersiovsky) Ft. Benning, Georgia

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– 184 of the hymnal

The Hymns: 609, 816, 781 v. 1&2, 744, 611, 895, 685

Sermon Text: Matthew 18:21-35

The Sermon: **“As We Forgive Others”**

- † **The Altar and Altar Stand flowers** are placed to the glory of God in thanksgiving of Stephen and Nancy Kasper’s 45th wedding anniversary.
- † **Wendish Fest:** The 35th Annual Wendish Fest will be hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Texas Wendish Heritage Society on Sunday, September 24, 2023 @ Serbin, Texas. Guest speaker for the 8:30 English Church Service and the 10:30 German Church Service will be Dr. Rev. Gerald Paul; Rev. John Schmidt, St. Paul Serbin (English Liturgy) and Rev. Thomas Obersat of Ebenezer Manheim (German Liturgy). Church tours will be offered @ 12:30 & 1:30p.m. The day will offer lots of Wendish history, heritage, culture and family activities @ 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 Shiner Hobo Band, 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! For information contact 979-366-2441 or museum@texaswendish.org or www.texaswendish.org
- † **Desserts Needed for Wendish Fest:** Wendish Fest attendees really appreciate having desserts available to them during Wendish Fest. All desserts donated by volunteers are greatly appreciated. Those who wish to provide a dessert are asked to bring them uncut, to the pavilion on Sunday morning by 8:30 a.m. Desserts can also be dropped at the museum the day before. Thank you!
- † **Lutheran Witness.** The church provides a subscription of the Lutheran Witness for each family in the congregation, at a cost of \$22.50. If you are **not** receiving a monthly copy of the Lutheran Witness and would like to have it, or if you **are** receiving the monthly Lutheran Witness and do not want it, please contact the church office by Monday, October 2nd.
- † **Scholastic Book Fair.** Come shop in the gym on Sept 27-29, Wednesday – Friday, until 6 :00 p.m. and Sunday, October 1 after church and Sunday School. See you soon.
- † **LWML Post Oak Zone Fall Rally.** Sunday, October 1st, hosted by Trinity Dime Box. Registration 1:30 p.m., Rally kicks off at 2:00 p.m. Salad supper to follow. Ingathering-University Lutheran Chapel at Texas A&M. Don’t forget to bring your canceled stamps

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, September 24th, **“High Ground”**. Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. When the waters rise and enemies attack, the high ground is the place of safety and security. But who will take us there? (Psalm 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 for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live.

Serving today: Elders– Douglas Hartfield and Michael Krause
Organist- Daniel Krause
Acolytes- Jagger Garner and Lane Gersch
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Mason Becker Assistant- Carson Becker
Ushers- Jason Becker, Randy Becker, Brandon Burgdorf,
Trey Fritsche, Mike Krause, Ethan Miertschin,
Rex Perry, Brad Schmidt, Tim Symm, John Tate
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Rex Perry
Virgil Becker, Chase Oltmann, Tim Symm

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today	Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m. Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Teachers Meeting – 10:15 a.m.
Monday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m. ECC Parent/Teacher Conferences
Tuesday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m. Circuit Meeting @ St. James, Lexington – 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday	Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m. School Chapel – 8:30 a.m. Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Friday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Next Sunday	English Worship Service – 8:30 a.m. Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m. Acolytes: Trenton Grange and Alice Gurka, Greeter: Irene Hempel and Melodi Oltmann German Wendish Festival Service – 10:30 a.m. Acolytes: Cooper Hinze and Lukas Iselt Greeter: Irene Hempel and Melodi Oltmann 35th Annual Wendish Festival

Birthdays: Today – Shane Corn, Judith Kalbas, Rachel Schautschick, Nicholas Taylor; 18th – Max Faske, Melinda Krause, Florine Werchan; 19th – Danielle Jones, Tommy Wilkins; 20th – Gail Albrecht, Shaina Gersch, Mary Ann Prellop, Arthur Urban; 21st – Jace Bise, Harviell Jackson, Kynlee Stewart, Martin Werchan; 22nd – Olin Carter, Dorothy Schautschick; 23rd – Andrea Goedrich, Deanna Miertschin, Delbert Prellop, Stephanie Symm, Christian Weddle. God's Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Morning Worship- 282, Bible Class- 16; Sunday School- 31, Visitors- 1, Offering- \$32.00.

Offering Last Week: \$9,583.24

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$8,117.49	Mission	\$315.00
Sunday School	\$32.00	Mission Total	\$315.00
Lunch Room	\$50.00	Savings/Other:	
ECC Operating	\$693.75	Endowment Fund	\$50.00
LWML Quilting	\$50.00	Scholarship	\$50.00
Tuition	\$225.00	Savings/Other Total	\$100.00
Received 9/10/2023	\$9,168.24		
		Total	\$9,583.24
Est. needed per week	\$27,230.00		
Received MTD	\$47,605.49		
Est. needed per month	\$118,000.00		

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of AC & Jessie Flippo and Jerry Flippo by Doug & Mary Jatzlau & family - \$750.00.
LWML Quilting: In memory of our grandparents by M/M Delvin Boriack - \$50.00. **Texas Wendish Heritage Society:** In memory of Carolyn Bamsch by Leonard & Lucy Mitschke - \$50.00.

Life Through the Church Year:

September 17 – Pentecost XVI

Surprise pregnancy often comes with complications and difficulties. Terminal diagnosis can involve suffering and sorrow. But our God brought Jesus back from the dead. He makes it His way to wring blessings out of burdens (Genesis 50:19-20). Are we in the place of God, to let abortion or assisted suicide judge (Romans 14:4) someone else's life as hopeless?



Chapel Time Change

Due to 7th and 8th grade visit days, our chapel time on Wednesday September 20th, and September 27th will be adjusted to 11:20 am. Please plan accordingly! See you there!

7th and 8th Grade Visit Day

8th grade students from our area private schools will be joining us in the afternoon of Wednesday, September 20th, and 7th grade students will be joining us in the afternoon of Wednesday, September 27th. This annual visit event is a great opportunity for future students to see what FLHS is all about and what high school might look like. If you have a 7th or 8th grader, and would like to bring them for visit day, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

7th and 8th Grade Game Night

FLHS will be hosting a game night for 7th and 8th grade students on Friday, September 29 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm at Faith Lutheran High School. We will have lots of food, fun, and fellowship!

Oktoberfest Meal Tickets

Tickets for our annual Oktoberfest celebration are now available! Meal includes brats, noodles, green beans, potato salad, kraut, bread and coffee cake. Meals will be available on Saturday, October 28 from 11 am to 1 pm at the Holy Cross Picnic Grounds. Tickets are \$15 each and available for pre-sale only! Talk to a FLHS student, staff, board, or delegate today!!

Save the Date!

FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 28th. New this year will be **The Battle of the Vines**, in addition to **The Battle of the Brew** - both are home brew competitions, so start planning your brews now. Returning will be our traditional German meal, domino tournament, cornhole tournament, silent and live auction, music, kids games, bounce house, and lots of fun! Find our Facebook event, or see our flier for all the details about the day!

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 28th.

Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have offered on behalf of FLHS. As we have just begun another year, we are thankful for each of you who faithfully pray and support the ministry God has created at FLHS. Thank you, on behalf of the students who will be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support!

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.stpaulserbinlutheranschool.org ✠

for the week of September 17-23, 2023

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 18...VB & FB games (away)
@ Grace-Memham
– 3:00 & 4:30 PM
- Sept. 19...School Picture Order
(on the deadline)
- Sept. 20...School Chapel Service
8:10 AM
8th Gr. Visit Day to FLHS
12:00-3:00 PM
Voyager Float in GHS Parade
– 7:00 PM
- Sept. 22...End of 1st Six-Weeks
Parent-Student Lunch
- Sept. 24...Wendish Festival
- Sept. 25-Oct. 1...Scholastic Book Fair
- Sept. 27...“See You at the Pole”
Chapel Service – 8:30 AM
7th Gr. Visit Day to FLHS
12:00-3:00 PM
Distribution of 1st 6-Week
Report Cards
- 9-28-29...Parent-Teacher Conferences
– 12:00-8:00 PM
Dismissal @ 11:45 AM
- 9-29-30...Salem JV VB Tournament

The Voyager Voice

A weekly publication of
St. Paul Lutheran School – Serbin
Jim House, Principal
Home Phone 972-345-3960

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

From the Principal's Desk . . .

The deadline for **School Picture Orders** is Tuesday (9/19); all orders are made online at www.mrdabbs.com.

Come see our **Voyager float in the GHS Homecoming Parade** on Wednesday (9/20).

The 1st Six-Weeks ends next Friday (9/22). Start signing up for **Parent-Teacher Conferences** online at the school website beginning Monday, Sept 18th.

Check out the calendar for upcoming athletic events and special activities. Have a blessed week in the Lord! ~ Jim House, Principal

NEWS, NOTES, and HAPPENINGS

PICTURE PROOFS...Hey, Voyagers! Remember, the deadline for your online portrait order is next Tuesday, Sept. 19th! Picture Proofs



can be viewed online; flyers outlining instructions on how to access your child's proof and order pictures were sent home last week. Go online to www.mrdabbs.com and order today using your child's unique login number (included on your child's proof flyer).

SIGN-UP FOR CONFERENCES...The 1st Six-Weeks ends next Friday, Sept. 22nd, and report cards will be issued on Sept. 27th. But, we'd like to keep parents even more informed of their child's overall progress by holding fall **Parent-Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, Sept. 27th from 4:00-7:00 PM, Thursday, Sept. 28th and Friday, Sept. 29th from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM**. During these brief 15-minute conferences, the teachers will discuss your child's 1st six-week report card and share insights regarding their progress gleaned from the 1st six weeks of classes. Parents, go online to the school website beginning next Monday, Sept. 18th



and “sign-up” for your Parent-Teacher Conference Appointment times. Please indicate your preferred conference time by placing your name in the appropriate box no later than next Friday, Sept. 22nd. We look forward to meeting with all parents to discuss the 1st six-week progress of the students, and appreciate your partnership with us as we educate your child at St. Paul Lutheran



OFFERING PROJECT. . Thanks for remembering your Chapel offerings every Wednesday for the Samaritan Purse "*Operation Christmas Child*" project. We've already collected \$359.43 for the project which provides a shoebox gift and the Gospel of Jesus to children around the world at Christmas. *Our goal again this year is to pack 100 boxes for OCC.* Remember your chapel offerings next Wednesday and contribute generously in support of this worthy project.



We're also collecting various school supplies for our OCC Shoebox project and still need the following numbers of supplies to fill the boxes:

- 170 ink pens (blue or black)
- 24 colored pencils (set of 10)
- 60 colored markers (set of 10)
- 150 glue sticks
- 92 rolls of scotch tape
- 90 index cards (100 ct)
- 74 pink eraser

We encourage you to bring donations to the school office. Help reach our 100 shoebox goals and make our OCC Shoebox project a success this year!

HOMECOMING FLOAT. . This year, the Serbin Voyagers have been invited to participate in the Gladings High School Homecoming Parade on *Wednesday, Sept 20th at 7:00 PM* at Veterans Park by entering a float in the parade. Our Varsity VB and FB players and Cheerleaders will ride on the float, but everyone is invited to come cheer for GLHS and support both the Buffaloes and the Voyagers at this fun event! Students remember—if you plan ride, your Permission slips must be returned to the school office by tomorrow (Monday) 9/18.

PARENT-STUDENT LUNCH. . Parents, you're invited to come have lunch with your children during their lunch period at our first Parent-Student Lunch *next Friday, Sept. 22nd beginning at 11:30 AM.* Eat with your child and enjoy fellowship with their friends and other parents. Remember, if you bring lunch from home, please **NO SOFT DRINKS!** If you would like to purchase our school hot lunch that day, complete the reservation form (coming home today) and return it to school by next Tuesday, Sept. 19th. We look forward to seeing you for our September Parent-Student Lunch!



VOYAGER ATHLETICS. . It's been a busy week of sports at Serbin. The JVVB teams won its game on Tuesday and the Varsity VB team won again upping their record to 3-1; the JVFB team won improving their record to 2-1 while the Varsity team move to 3-0 with a victory Tuesday against Calvary. Over the weekend, the Varsity FB team played in the Thomdale FB Tourney; we'll let you know how they did next week. Our teams travel to Brenham next week.



- On *Monday, Sept. 18th,* the *JVVB & JVFB teams* see action against Grace-Brenham at 3:00 PM & 4:30 PM.

Check the website for remaining home games in September, and plan to come cheer our teams' efforts this season.



BOOK FAIR COMING. . The 2023 Scholastic Book Fair is coming to St. Paul *Sept. 25th thru Oct. 1st.* With the wide selection of books and other materials being made available for purchase by our students and families, we know we'll have lots of book-loving customers throughout the week. More information will be coming home next week; plan now to attend this awesome literacy event.



SEE YOU AT THE POLE. . Students and families of St. Paul Lutheran are invited to participate in the 23rd annual "See You At The Pole" Prayer Chapel *on Wednesday, Sept. 27th at 8:30 AM* in front of the church at the flagpole. For the uninitiated, "See You at the Pole" was begun in 1990 in Burleson, TX by students who knew the importance of prayer and wanted to encourage others to see how the Lord can change their lives through the power of prayer. This year's SYATP theme is: "*Wholehearted*", based on Jeremiah 29:13. Plan now to attend as we pray for our school and school families, friends, churches, and community.



HAVE A GREAT WEEK! . I was good seeing so many parents, relatives and friends attending our Voyager VB & FB games this week! Thanks for supporting our teams! Remember to sign up for Parent-Teacher-Conferences next week and don't forget those lunch reservation forms on Tuesday. If I can be of any service to you throughout the week, feel free to stop by my office or call for an appointment.



Your partner in Christ,
James L. House, Principal