

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



John Schmidt, Pastor
Paul W. Hartfield, Pastor Emeritus
James L. House, Principal

Church 366-9650 Fax 366-2200
School 366-2218 ECC 366-2870
Rev. S. 716-7632 Rev. H. 540-0669

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

The Third Sunday in Advent

13 December 2020

Welcome! *The Coming of the Christ Brings True Rejoicing in His Forgiveness.* When he preaches repentance, John the Baptist points us to Christ Jesus. John was sent by God “*as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him*” (John 1:7). He baptizes with water in order to “*make straight the way of the Lord,*” who shall redeem His people from their sins (John 1:23). That Lord Jesus “*who comes after*” John now stands among us and makes Himself known to us (John 1:26–27). He has been anointed by the Holy Spirit “*to bring good news to the poor*” and “*to bind up the brokenhearted*” (Is. 61:1). By the washing of the water with His Word and Spirit, He clothes His Church with “*the garments of salvation*” and adorns her with His own righteousness “*as a bride adorns herself with her jewels*” (Is. 61:10). Therefore, we “*rejoice always*” in the Lord, “*pray without ceasing*” and “*give thanks in all circumstances*” (1 Thess. 5:16–18). For “*the God of peace,*” who has called you by the Gospel, will surely “*sanctify you completely,*” so that “*your whole spirit and soul and body*” will “*be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ*” (1 Thess. 5:23–24).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Tamshaw Becker

Mary Sue Canales (cousin of Nancy Kasper)

Tim Hartfield-recovering

Pat Hughes (friend of James and Kathy Kalbas)

Chris Miertschin-recovering

Shannon Miertschin

Howard Muniz-hospitalized (uncle of Robert Muniz)

Franklin Richter-recovering (brother-in-law of Willard and Milton Albrecht)

Lil Robertson-recovering

Kermit Schautschick-recovering (son of Hattie Schautschick)

Melvin Schulze-recovering

Becky Weise-recovering

Reagan Wilhelm-recovering (fiancée of Bradly Schautschick)

Schautschick)

Schautschick)

Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

Those fighting cancer including:

Diane Biehle (friend of Dorothy Schautschick)

Joyce Bise

Russell Cleghorn (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Ginger Clifford (sister of Nancy Kasper)

Mandie Fritsche (granddaughter-in-law of Doris Fritsche)

Fritsche

Doyle Hembry (father of Pam Krause and Lisa Schmidt)

Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

Ross Hughes (friend of James and Kathy Kalbas)

Susan Jatzlau (friend of Jennifer Wenke)

Steven Kelly (cousin of Jessica Gruetzner, brother-in-law of Christi Bradford)

Harold Krause

Bethany Lara (daughter of Kathy Gersch)

Mike Maass

Carie Oltmann

Pat Richardson (friend of Darlene Schatte)

Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)

Jim Sladek (friend of Johnathan Noack)

Barbara Symm

Amy Wagner Bryant (niece of Joan Gersch)

Judy Wesbrook (mother of Heather Krause)

Tiffany Wittman (sister-in-law of Jason & Cindy Heuermann)

Heuermann)

Those serving in the Armed Forces including:

Keith Schreckengost (Billy & Theresa Krause's brother-in-law), Fort Hood, TX

Steven Cutlip (brother of Stephanie Symm), Fort Irwin,

CA

Kosh Osmun (son of Stephanie Miertschin), Basic

Training

Coy Hunt (son of Shannon & Christine Hunt) Camp

Hovey, South Korea

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—Worship Insert
 The Hymns: 338, 345, 249, 921
 Sermon Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 The Sermon: **“Can You Do It?”**

Weekly Church Services

St. Paul Lutheran Church is open for worship. We continue celebrating Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Private communion is available and we ask that you contact Pastor Schmidt to set up a time. Social distancing guidelines continue to be followed and we ask for your active participation to protect yourself and those around you. All those who are at risk are encouraged to please stay home and continue to follow us on Facebook live on the school Facebook page or the Church’s Website. All bulletins and announcements will continue to be posted on the Church’s Website for the foreseeable future. **If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID you are required to stay home.** We pray God’s protective hand upon us as we move forward in His love and care during this uncertain time.

- ✠ **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Lillian Kunkel’s 5th birthday by Kevin and Doris Kunkel.
- ✠ **The Altar Stand flowers** are placed to the glory of God in memory of LaVerne Hinze’s birthday by Robert & Joyce Hinze family
- ✠ **Congratulations** to John and Anje Hempel on the birth of a daughter, Audrey Elizabeth Hempel. She was born December 1, 2020, in Houston, TX. She weighed 7 lbs. 1 ounce and was 20 inches long. May God bless this growing family.
- ✠ **Congratulations** to Steven and Christine Noack on the birth of a daughter, Calla Magnolia Noack. She was born December 10, 2020, in Austin, TX. She weighed 9 lbs. 9 ounces and was 21¾ inches long. May God bless this growing family.
- ✠ **November Financial Statements** are available in the church office.
- ✠ **Mission Goal.** In the Voters Meeting held on October 13, 2019, the Voters set our 2020 Mission goal at \$35,000.00. To date our Mission contributions are at \$32,758.60. We are **\$2,241.40** away from meeting our 2020 goal.
- ✠ **Voter’s Meeting:** This evening at 7:00 p.m. is our annual election meeting. All voters are encouraged to attend. The agenda for the meeting is inserted in the bulletin this morning.
- ✠ **The LAF** will meet at 2:00 p.m. this afternoon to set up and decorate the trees.
- ✠ **LWML.** The LWML is again selling Christmas Cards. They are \$4/box. Contact Doris Fritsche at 979-212-1886. Cards are also available in the church office.
- ✠ **Wreaths Across America.** The Wreath Laying Ceremony will take place on Saturday, December 19th at 9:00 a.m., at the cemetery, and will be done safely with social distancing and masks required.
- ✠ **Poinsettias:** The LWML will be selling Poinsettias for \$10.00 each to be used to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. To order please fill out the order form which can be found on the table at the entrance to the church office, and put it in the collection plate. Orders are due by Wednesday, December 16th. **Please note that due to availability no orders will be accepted after December 16th.** If you need further information, please contact Dorothy Schautschick at 716-0094.
- ✠ **Scrip Program.** Getting ready to do your holiday shopping, or giving gift cards as gifts? You can do it all with a Scrip Card. Order them through the Church’s Scrip Program. Orders can be placed through the Church Office or you can go online and order your cards.
- ✠ **2021 Offering Envelopes.** The **2021 adult** offering envelopes are available to be picked up in the church office meeting room. The **children’s** envelopes will be sent home with the children at a later date. **Please continue to use the 2020 envelopes until the end of the year and then discard,** since offering envelope numbers often change from year to year. If you wish to give an offering to the 2020 church year, please give this before the New Year’s Day service. If you failed to receive your 2021 envelopes or have any questions, please contact the financial co-chairmen, Glen Albrecht or Johnathan Noack.

Serving today: Elders—Tim Hartfield and Keith Oltmann
Organist- Jack Wiederhold
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Mason Becker **Assistant**- Carson Becker

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
 Bible Class – 9:30 a.m.
 LAF Set up Christmas Trees – 2:00 p.m.
 Voter’s Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday ECC Chapel – 8:00 a.m.
 Favorite Carol Chapel – 8:30 a.m.
 Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.
Candlelight Carol Service – 7:00 p.m.

Thursday Elder’s Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Friday All School Christmas Party & Christmas Luncheon

Saturday Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony – 9:00 a.m.

Next Sunday **Worship Service w/Communion– 8:30 a.m.**
 Bible Class– 9:30 a.m.

Birthdays: Today – Christina Fridenberg, Lillian Kunkel, Ashley Schmidt; 14th – Samantha Glass, Gary Kubsch, Colby Oltmann; 15th – Kari Jatzlau, Gregoria Menzel-Garcia, Elizabeth Richardson, Brandon Schautschick, Douglas Weiser; 16th – Lane Gersch; 17th – Kathy Gersch; 18th – Chris Birnbaum, Kenneth Lorenz, Lillian Wenke. God’s Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Midweek Advent (12/2/2020)- 75, Communion- 39, Morning Worship- 148, Communion- 100.

Offering Last Week: \$49,920.73

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$24,706.00	Mission	\$4,468.00
Thanksgiving	\$1,170.00	Lutheran Hour	\$90.00
Advent (12/2/202)	\$522.00	Mission Total	\$4,558.00
Lunchroom	\$1,638.55	Savings/Other:	
ECC Operating	\$3,918.98	School Fund	\$500.00
Tuition	\$7,219.20	Cemetery Fund	\$50.00
Received 11/29/2020	\$39,174.73	Bus Replacement Fund	\$138.00
		Tuition Assistance Fund	\$5,000.00
Est. needed per week	\$22,500.00	Building Fund	\$500.00
Received MTD	\$34,174.73	Savings/Other Total	\$6,188.00
Est. needed per month	\$97,500.00		
		Total	\$49,920.73

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Lynn Noack by Gary & Daphne Gentz - \$25.00. In memory of C.W. Kasper by Michael & Susan Mitschke & family – \$50.00. In memory of Gus Schramm, Jr. by James & Kathy Kalbas - \$100.00; by Marvin & Charlyn Matthijetz - \$40.00. In memory of Douglas Wood and Bernell Teinert by Martin & Jeannie Werchan - \$100.00 **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Victor Mersiovsky by Gladys Arldt & Raymond - \$20.00; by Mary Ann & Delbert Prellop - \$25.00. In memory of Susie Proske by Gladys Arldt & Raymond - \$20.00; by Mary Ann & Delbert Prellop - \$25.00. **School Fund:** In memory of William Shuford, Jr. by Martin & Jeannie Werchan - \$500.00.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, December 20th, “**Experience God**”. Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. We will never fully grasp the idea of God, but that doesn’t keep us from experiencing God’s love for us in Christ. (John 1:1-18). 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 Through the Church Year:

December 13 – Advent III

Few situations force us to acknowledge One greater than ourselves (John 1:27) like surprise pregnancies and terminal diagnoses do. But when we see how He comes as gentle gestating baby and humble suffering servant, and not only binds up the brokenhearted (Isaiah 61:1) but keeps body and soul (1Thessalonians 5:24-24), even these burdens give way to greater blessings.

2020 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Service	Day	Date	Time	Detail	Offering
Candlelight Carol Service	Wed	Dec. 16	7:00 p.m.		General
Song Service	Sun	Dec.20	8:30 a.m.		General
Christmas Eve	Thurs	Dec. 24	6:00 p.m.		½ Lutheran Braille Workers & ½ Bus Fund
Christmas Day	Fri	Dec. 25	9:00 a.m.	English/German	½ LSS & ½ LBT
New Year's Eve	Thurs	Dec, 31	7:00 p.m.		General
New Year's Day	Fri	Jan. 1	9:00 a.m.	Communion	General





End of Year Giving

In Proverbs 2:6, God's Word promises: "The LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding." Faith Lutheran High School exists to instill Christ's wisdom in His Word to prepare faithful leaders for tomorrow. Thank you for being a part of this mission through your prayers and financial support. The Board of Directors encourages faithful giving during this time to further the ministry and mission of FLHS. Please prayerfully consider how you can give to further Lutheran education in our area. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

"Faith at Christmas" Program

The students gave a marvelous performance at Faith at Christmas this past week as we celebrated the birth of our Savior through "Peace has Come." We were incredibly blessed to give this performance to those in attendance and those viewing from at home. The video of the program can still be found on our Facebook page if you were unable to watch it on Tuesday.

Shadow Days

Shadow days are a great opportunity for prospective students to follow us for a day and experience what FLHS is all about. Parents, call us today at (979) 242-2889 to set up a shadow day for your child.

Raffle Items

The Spring Raffle is just around the corner. The Board of Directors is currently looking for valuable items or monetary donations to be used in the raffle. Please contact Nikki Kueck if you have something to donate! Thank you!

Accreditation Visit

FLHS had a very successful accreditation visit on November 8th - 10th. FLHS has been officially been accredited in good standing, with no major deficiencies. Praise the Lord for the wonderful blessings He continues to bestow on FLHS.

Thank you!

Everyone at FLHS is blessed by each gift that we receive from our supporters. It's not about the size of the gift, but the cheerful attitude that gives thanks to God (2 Corinthians 9:7). Whether your gift seems big or small, it is greatly appreciated and makes a bigger impact than you know.