

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas



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The Fourth Sunday in Advent

20 December 2020

Welcome! *The Lord Builds a House for David: Jesus Christ Who Comes in the Flesh.* When King David “lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies,” he piously supposed that he would build a house for God (2 Sam. 7:1–2). But the Lord would turn it around: He would establish a house for David and an everlasting throne. This He has done not only for David, but also for all His people, in the Son of David, Jesus Christ, “conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary” (Apostles’ Creed). That holy child, the incarnate “*Son of the Most High,*” receives “*the throne of his father David*” and begins to reign “*over the house of Jacob forever*” (Luke 1:32–33). Having given Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the world, His body is the true and eternal temple of God in which His people have their own place of peace and rest. That is “*the mystery that was kept secret for long ages*” but is now “*made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God*” in order that we may have faith and life in Christ (Rom. 16:25–26).

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)

Eldor Fritsche-hospitalized (brother-in-law of Doris Fritsche)

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)

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)

Doyle Hembry (father of Pam Krause and Lisa Schmidt)

Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)

Ross Hughes (friend of James and Kathy Kalbas)

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)

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

Those who mourn:

The family of Robert Yurk (father of Wesley Yurk)

The family of Roy Becker (father of Randall Becker)

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.

As we gather at the Lord’s Table, we practice close communion. For the sake of responsible pastoral care, members should have previously announced their intent to commune today. Guests who are members of a sister LCMS church and any others having concerns about their participation are asked to speak with Pastor before communing.

The Order of Service— Worship Insert

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.
- ✠ **Congratulations** to Cameron and Kaitlyn Behrend on the birth of a son, Brooks Drew Behrend. He was born December 12, 2020, in College Station, TX. He weighed 7 lbs. 14 ounces and was 20 inches long. May God bless this growing family.
- ✠ **Thank You.** Thank you to Josh Droegemueller for enhancing our worship on Wednesday evening by accompanying on his violin.
- ✠ **Thank You.** Thank you to everyone who came out on Saturday morning to help with and participate in the Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony.
- ✠ **Voters Meeting Minutes.** The minutes of the Voters Meeting that was held on Sunday, December 13th are included in the bulletin this morning.
- ✠ **January–March Portals of Prayer.** The January-March Portals of Prayer are available in the church office..
- ✠ **Christmas Trees.** The Christmas Trees are donated in memory of Jack Jones by the Jones family.
- ✠ **LAF Members.** Thank you for setting up and decorating the Christmas trees.
- ✠ **Thank you** to the ladies of the LWML for beautifying the sanctuary with the Poinsettias. If you would like, you may leave your poinsettias in the Church until January 1, 2021, otherwise you may pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Day Service on Friday and check your name off the list.
- ✠ **Thank you** to everyone who purchased Poinsettias this year.

The LWML

- ✠ **Christmas Eve Service.** Tuesday evening, December 24th at 6:00 p.m. we will have our Children's Christmas Eve Service. The children have been working hard on learning their parts and rehearsing their songs and are ready to share with us the story of the Savior's birth. Please join us online as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.
- ✠ **Christmas Day Service.** Christmas Day Service will be held on Friday, December 25th beginning at 9:00 a.m. and will be broadcast on KBUK Radio (104.9 FM) from LaGrange. Our thanks to Paige Tractors for sponsoring this broadcast.
- ✠ **Annual Report.** Reports from various committees and organizations for our congregation's annual report are asked to be completed and turned in to the church office by January 18th.
- ✠ **Scrip Orders.** Thank you to everyone who ordered scrip cards this year. Please consider using the scrip program to do your shopping, or giving gift cards as gifts.
- ✠ **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 \$33,246.60. We are **\$1,753.40** away from meeting our 2020 goal.
- ✠ **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.
- ✠ **South Lee County Volunteer Fire Department.** The SLCVFD Annual Meeting that was originally scheduled for January 17th has been postponed due to covid.

Serving today: Elders– Tim Hartfield and Keith Oltmann
Organist- Daniel Krause
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Mason Becker Assistant- Carson Becker

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today **Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Mon. – Fri. No School-Christmas vacation
Thurs. – Fri. ECC Closed-Christmas vacation
Thursday **Christmas Eve Worship Service – 6:00 p.m.**
Wednesday **Christmas Day Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.**
Next Sunday **Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
Bible Class – 9:30 a.m.

Birthdays: 21st – Lavonne Berdoll, Michelle Birnbaum, Herman Gersch; 22nd – Gladys Dillman, Scott Jones, John Weiser; 23rd – Jill Jackson, Daniel Schulze; 24th – Krista Jatzlau; 25th – Michelle Gonzales, Ruby Schulze; 26th – Colton Early, Ludwig Krause. God's Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Midweek Advent (12/9/2020)- 71,
Morning Worship- 137, Bible Class- 24

Offering Last Week: \$22,968.32

Home:		Mission:	
General	\$14,416.18	Mission	\$488.00
Advent (12/9/2020)	\$487.00	Lutheran Hour	\$50.00
Lunchroom	\$1,290.00	Mission Total	\$538.00
ECC Operating	\$821.34	Savings/Other:	
LWML	\$70.00	School Fund	\$50.00
Tuition	\$4,620.80	Cemetery Fund	\$300.00
Received 12/13/2020	\$21,705.32	Bus Replacement Fund	\$375.00
		Savings/Other Total	\$725.00
Est. needed per week	\$22,500.00		
Received MTD	\$60,880.05	Total	\$22,968.32
Est. needed per month	\$97,500.00		

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Edna Krause by Angie & James Frerichs - \$50.00. **Lutheran Hour:** In memory of Susie Proske by Randy & Janice Becker & family - \$25.00. In memory of Victor Mersiovsky by Randy & Janice Becker & family - \$25.00. **LWML:** In memory of Lawrence Proske by M/M Delvin Boriack - \$20.00 (for quilting group). In memory of Adelia Lorenz by Angie & James Frerichs - \$50.00 (for Tape Ministry). **School Fund:** In memory of Susie Proske by Jerry & Karen Faske - \$50.00. **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of Bernell Teinert by John & Lois Kalbas – 30.00.

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, December 27th, **“Welcome to the Family!”** Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook. The book of Galatians gives us a glimpse inside the family of God. It describes the Christian family as one that stands firm in Christ's freedom, walks united in the spirit, and bears one another's burdens in love (Galatians 4:4-7). 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 20 – Advent IV

Anyone who experiences surprise pregnancy understands Mary's "greatly "troubled" (Luke 1:29). But since every conception comes about only by God's good and gracious will, we can rest assured that especially in such circumstances. "The Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28) and "You have found favor with God" (Luke 1:30). Who needs "my body, my choice" when we can declare, "Let it be to me according to Your Word" (Luke 1:38).

2020 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Service	Day	Date	Time	Detail	Offering
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





Merry Christmas!!

Faith Lutheran High School wishes you and your family a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year! We pray God would shower blessings upon you this holiday season and in the year ahead! Thank you for being a blessing to FLHS!

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.

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

Faith Lutheran High School has been accredited from both the Texas Lutheran School Accreditation Commission and the National Lutheran School Accreditation team. 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!

Christmas Hours

Faith will be out of school from December 19-January 4. During that time, we will have limited office hours to allow our staff the opportunity to spend time with their families. We will reopen with regular hours starting January 5. If you need immediate assistance, please contact Nikki Kueck at (501) 940-6259.