

GOOD NEWS



December 2025

St. Paul Lutheran Church

234 N. Gohmert St., Suite A

Yorktown, Texas 78164

Office: 361-564-2135

Office Hours: M-Th 8-12, 1-4:30; Fri 8-12

www.stpaulykt.org e-mail: stpaulykt@sbcglobal.net

9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Radio Broadcast 100.1 FM

Pastor: Tim W. Muehlbrad

Director of Christian Education: Terry Carmichael

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN MISSION STATEMENT:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit to make Christ known;

*As we love one another, serve our neighbor, and grow in our Faith
through studying God's Word and Worshiping God.*



FROM THE PASTOR

"You have to wait till Christmas." "Its as slow as Christmas." We have heard these lines many times in our lives,

either as children waiting to open Christmas presents or in later years waiting on something or someone.

When we think of December, many times we think of Christmas and all that it brings. But the Christmas season is only a short time of December (12 days) and half of that is in January. It is the highlight of this time of year, but never the less, the time of December is filled with another season -- Advent (November 30 - December 24).

"Advent means "coming" and thus "coming" is the emphasis. We remember the faith of the Old Testament believers who looked in hope to Christ's first coming. As Christians, we look in anticipation to the second coming. We prepare for the coming celebration called Christmas on December 25. We recognize that Christ continues to come to us in the present through Word and Sacrament.

Thus in our worship service, in our hymns, Scriptures and prayers we emphasize "coming" and preparation and then celebrate Christmas when Christmas comes. This is different from the secular world which tries to push Christmas on us for more than a month before Christmas Day. Because of this, we may lose the importance of waiting and anticipating, and then trivialize Christmas when it does come. The emphasis of the church is that these weeks before Christmas are a time of reflection and anticipation and preparation, so that when Christmas comes, we can truly praise God for His wonderful gift of a Savior. It may seem as "slow as Christmas", but we wait for that day of celebration as we wait with anticipation the second coming of our Lord.



"I can't tell if it's loose or prophetic, but my halo keeps slipping."

Your Pastor,
Tim W Muehlbrad



“Letters to Baby Jesus” Christmas Program

What must it have been like for all the characters in the Christmas story? Have you ever wondered about that? The Sunday School is working on their Christmas Program, “Letters to Baby Jesus”. It asks some of those questions to those in the story

and they get to answer. We hope you will join us for the program during the worship service on Sunday Dec. 14th. We hope you will stay for the Christmas Feast that follows in the Fellowship Hall. There is a place for everyone in the play!

The schedule is: (We hope you can be there for the practices)

Sunday November 30th practice during Sunday School AND costume fitting following Sunday School (shouldn’t take long for this)

Sunday Dec. 7th practice during Sunday School

Sat. Dec 13th at 2:30 p.m. Dress rehearsal practice

Sunday Dec. 14th be at church for costumes and performance at **8:15 a.m.**

We hope all of you can join us on the 14th to hear the questions and the answers!

A Christmas Children’s Sermon series on Colors!

Each of the 4 Advent Sundays we will be talking about colors of the season. Why are there different colors? What is the story behind them? There are some interesting things about the colors we see every Christmas season. So, try to be there for all four Sundays in Advent!

Summer Camp News for Parents and Youth

We will be attending Camp Lone Star in LaGrange TX again this year. The group that attended last year had a great time! The program is for children 7 yrs old to 12 yrs old and youth 13 to 18

years old. It is, also, highly recommended activity for Confirmation students as part of that program.

We have chosen to reserve the week of July 12-17. Now we need to get a correct count of the number of spaces we need to reserve for that week. We would like to have that done by December 6th. After we have done that, and they reserve our spots, then the parents will go online to register your child or youth for one of those slots. You will need a special code to do so. You can contact us for that code if you don't have it at the church office or with Terry. You will need this for the step that asks if you are part of a Pioneer church group. Select "Yes" and enter the code. They are encouraging us to register as quickly as possible as spots fill quickly and it is harder to add a spot later.

In addition to the above registration with the camp, the church will need the following:

1. Let us know if your youth is registered as you do this online so we will not know you have done it.
2. A \$175.00 deposit sent to the office for your youth (note: this is refundable upon the attendance of your youth at the camp)

Please don't let money be a problem for the youth attending camp. This is such a marvelous experience and faith building week we don't want anything to get in the way of them attending. Just let Terry or the church office know.

We know summer schedules can get tough to work everything in. It is much easier to subtract a registration than to add one and sometimes that week may be full already. So, if there is any doubt please go ahead and register.

Two Advent Calendar Opportunities for Advent 2025

Sunday School students will receive "Gift for the Christ Child" Advent calendars. This calendar is a way for the students and others to give a special gift to YAM and to start out with a Happy New Year in 2026!

If you would like to participate in this gift giving, please collect the items listed on this Advent calendar. Baskets will be located in the Educational Building, basement, Narthex, and near the Annex elevator. Please drop off items by Sunday, January 4th, 2026!

They will be taken to YAM.

As an added bonus for your family, beginning Dec. 1st, read one chapter of the Book of Luke each evening. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus' life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!

Also, in addition each student will receive their own DAILY Advent Calendar on November 30th in Sunday School to share with the family! Each day we hope the family will find a moment to look at the daily numbered slot to see what message it has for us as we prepare for Christ's birth. Perhaps it can be even part of your daily reading of Luke each evening!

Christmas Caroling on Dec. 21st

We will be riding through the city on our trailers to spread some Christmas cheer and songs on Sunday, Dec 21st. We will begin at the church and leave at 4:00 p.m. to ride on trailers to share Christmas cheer and carols to the Nursing Home and others. We will return to the church around 6:00 p.m. for soup and fellowship! You don't have to be a choir member or perfectly pitched individual to join us. Just bring your Christmas Spirit and the joy of the upcoming Savior's birth and join us!



Christmas Caroling

Advent Calendar

Each day add an item to a box. After Christmas, bring the box to church to be donated to YAM.

- December 1 - Box of cereal**
- December 2 - Peanut butter**
- December 3 - Stuffing mix**
- December 4 - Boxed potatoes**
- December 5 - Macaroni & cheese**
- December 6 - Canned fruit**
- December 7 - Canned tomatoes**
- December 8 - Canned tuna**
- December 9 - Dessert mix**
- December 10 - Jar of applesauce**
- December 11 - Canned sweet potatoes**
- December 12 - Cranberry sauce**
- December 13 - Canned beans**
- December 14 - Box of crackers**
- December 15 - Package of rice**
- December 16 - Package of oatmeal**
- December 17 - Package of pasta**
- December 18 - Spaghetti sauce**
- December 19 - Chicken noodle soup**
- December 20 - Tomato soup**
- December 21 - Can corn**
- December 22 - Can mixed vegetables**
- December 23 - Can carrots**
- December 24 - Can green beans**

New Christmas Tradition

Beginning December 1st, read one chapter of the Book of Luke in the Bible each evening.

There are 24 chapters.

On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus' life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
November 11, 2025 @ 6 PM

Empowered by the holy spirit to make Christ known; as we love one another, serve our neighbor, and grow in our faith through studying God's word and worshipping God.

1. **CALL TO ORDER-** The meeting of the Church Council of St. Paul Lutheran Church was called to order by Boyd Weise, President. Council members present for the meeting were Boyd Weise, Wade Bolting, Calvin Bruns, Jill Turner, Laurey Garcia, Larry Gohmert, Jay Heil, Pam Hoeffling, Ashleigh Peyton, Susan Franke, and Pastor Tim Muehlbrad. Terry Carmichael, Chad Hahn, and Chris Gohmert were also in attendance.
2. **DEVOTION-** Jill Turner opened the meeting with prayer.
3. **MINUTES-** Pam Hoeffling made a motion and was seconded by Ashleigh Peyton to amend the minutes from October on Social Concerns to change August 2025 to September 2025. Pam Hoeffling made a motion to approve October 14, 2025, with the amendment. Ashleigh Peyton seconded. The motion carried.
4. **REPORTS-**
 - a. **Treasurer/Stewardship-** Calvin Bruns provided a written report.
 - b. **Parish Education-** Jill Turner Reported:
 1. Bibles were presented to the 2nd-grade Sunday School class on October 26th.
 2. Erin Koopmann will be the Christmas Program director. Play practice will be during the Sunday School hour on November 30th and December 7th.

Dress rehearsal will be on Saturday, December 13th at 2:30 PM. The Christmas play will be performed during the church service on December 14th.

c. **Youth Committee Report-** Laurey Garcia reported:

1. Ten youth (Hanna Kneese, Gwen Kneese, Molly Gause, Abigail Gaus, Bailey Gaus, Kellan Diehl, Kylie Diehl, Aydn Garcia, Paige Rippamonti, and Ellen Warwas) came to assist on our workday. We cleaned and polished all of the pews in the sanctuary and made \$2,000 to use towards the Sports Court Fund.
2. The J. Welsh Farm outing was cancelled due to a lack of interest.
3. On November 15th, the youth is scheduled to play Bingo with the Yorktown Manor residents at 9:45 am.
4. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 18th at 6 PM.

d. **DCE-** Terry Carmichael reported:

1. Besides the normal duties (Childcare Chapels, Sunday School, and other duties), the following were accomplished:
 - a. Have been providing elementary Sunday School teachers with downloading and then copying their new curriculum materials for the month and placing them in their binders in their classrooms.
 - b. Have been looking through the NALC National Youth Gathering registration materials.
 - c. Have been looking through the Camp Lone Star Group Registration materials.
 - d. Met with Pastor and Laurey Garcia on those registrations and what they offer to the Confirmation and Youth Programs.
 - e. Met with parents and youth about the two events and their costs, requirements, and expectations (NOTE: the results of the meeting were that we would pursue the summer camp option over the

- youth gathering due to the time and costs of the event).
- f. Assisted Pastor with teaching the Confirmation classes.
 - g. Led the worship services on 10/26 with assistance from Jay Heil and gave the sermon to allow Pastor to attend the NALC Pastor Retreat.
 - h. Will be assisting with the Sat Nov. 8th Sunday worship with help from Jay Heil and then giving the message at the women's Thank Offering Worship on Sunday, Nov. 9th.
 - i. Attended the volleyball playoff game in Seguin.
 - j. Have been working with the Christmas Program for Dec. 14th by asking about a director and providing resources.
 - k. Attended the city-wide "Trunk or Treat" event and assisted with popcorn.
 - l. Will be assisting Pastor with the guide classes on Wednesday evenings.
 - m. Attended several volleyball games, football games, in-town and out-of-town.
 - n. Assisted with the Bible Presentation to the 2nd graders on 10/26.
- e. **Worship-** Jay Heil reported:
- 1. Poinsettias are lined up. Mary has kept the price at \$19.50. Amanda has printed out order forms to set out in church and at the church office so that people can start ordering.
 - 2. Christmas trees will go up the week before the Christmas Program.
- f. **Evangelism/Outreach-** Wade Bolting reported:
- 1. 193 goodie bags were handed out at "Trunk or Treat" on October 31st, and we went through 10 lbs. of popcorn.
 - 2. 5 St. Paul cards were picked up by parade participants who used our facilities during Western Days.
- g. **Social Concerns-** Susan Franke reported:

1. Assistance was provided to 1 individual in October 2025.
 - a. Provided help for one individual with rent (\$100.00)
- h. **Christian Life-** Pam Hoefling reported:
 1. Christian Life had a potluck on October 26th with approximately 40 people in attendance.
- i. **Property-** Larry Gohmert Reported:
 1. M.E. Plumbing has completed their replacement of the Educational Building plumbing, for an invoice amount of \$38,809.44, which is the exact amount of their quote.
 2. Schroeder Air Conditioning, as of this writing, is nearing the end of the air conditioning replacement project in the church.
 3. Reza Roofing is working on stopping the leaks in the roof of the extension in front of the Educational Building.
- j. **Cemetery-** No report provided.
- k. **C.E.M.** Tracie Fielding provided a written report.
- l. **Pastor-**
 1. Professional activities during **October** 2025:
 - a. 7 Worship Services
 - b. 8 Home Visits
 - c. 10 Educational Events
 - d. 9 Church Meetings and Events
 - e. 1 Community Event

Attended NALC Texas Region Pastor's Retreat and a tour of Concordia Lutheran University

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Plumbing is completed and paid for at the quoted price. Air Conditioning looks complete, but Larry will follow up to make sure. Following up on floor details. We are about \$16,700 short for all three projects.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Endowment Committee discussed Bi-law changes to the Constitution. Changes must be presented 60 days before the meeting and the congregation 30 days before the annual meeting. Pam Hoefling made a motion to present the revised Bylaws from the Endowment Fund Committee to the congregation for approval at the congregational annual meeting set for January 25, 2026. Wade Bolting seconded. The motion carried.
 - b. Yearly committee reports need to be submitted to Amanda on or before January 5th.
 - c. Friday, November 21st, 9 AM, the Budget Committee will meet to set the 2026 budget to go on the December council meeting agenda.
 - d. A motion was made by Pam Hoefling and seconded by Wade Bolting to amend the Church Constitution for the term of our youth council member to a 1-year term with no more than 2 consecutive terms. The motion carried.
7. **CLOSING-** Jay Heil made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pam Hoefling seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashleigh Peyton

2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT – Boyd Weise
SECRETARY – Ashleigh Peyton
PARISH ED – Jill Turner
STEWARDSHIP – Calvin Bruns
WORSHIP – Jay Heil
CHRISTIAN LIFE – Pam Hoefling
PROPERTY – Larry Gohmert
SOCIAL CONCERNS – Susan Franke
YOUTH – Laurey Garcia
EVANGELISM/OUTREACH – Wade Bolting

New Business at the Annual Meeting

At our Annual Meeting on January 25, 2026, we will be voting on some changes to the Church Constitution and Bylaws

Amendment to St. Paul Lutheran Church Constitution

Constitutional amendments may be approved at a Congregational Meeting with a majority vote and need to be ratified at the next Annual Congregational Meeting without changes by a two-thirds majority vote.

The amendment is in *italics*.

12.02. The members of the Church Council except the pastor(s) shall be elected by majority vote at the annual meeting of the congregation. They shall serve terms of two years. Their terms shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected. Members shall be eligible to serve no more than two full terms consecutively. *The Church Council Youth Representative member term shall be one year and shall be eligible to serve no more than two full terms consecutively.*

(The effective date of this amendment will be when the ratification vote is taken in January 2027.)

Amendment to the Bylaws

Bylaw amendments may be approved at Congregational Meeting with a majority vote.

The Endowment Committee has rewritten the Bylaws of the Endowment Fund to make the wording more concise and consistent. No substantive changes were made for the terms of the Endowment Fund. The revised version is as follows.

The Bylaws of The Endowment Fund of St. Paul Lutheran Church

Yorktown, Texas

1/25/2026

C14.01.01 Mission Statement

The St. Paul Lutheran Church Endowment Fund shall be established for the purpose of receiving gifts and bequests for the mission and

ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Yorktown, TX. Income from this fund will be used for special projects including capital improvements, program expansion and the broader mission and ministry of St. Paul Lutheran. Gifts may be made at any time to this fund, including gifts in memory or honor of individuals. Also, bequeathing estates or portions of estates is a vital aspect of this fund.

C14.01.02 The principal of the Endowment Fund shall remain intact so long as St. Paul Lutheran Church continues to function as a congregation. Should the congregation be dissolved or cease to exist, the accumulated assets of the Endowment Fund shall be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the then current Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

C14.01.03 The Endowment Fund of St. Paul Lutheran Church shall be governed by an Endowment Fund Committee elected by the congregation and shall consist of five (5) members of the congregation-at-large. Endowment Fund Committee members will serve three (3) year terms and no more than two (2) consecutive terms.

- a. Endowment Fund Committee members shall be elected by majority vote at a congregational meeting.
- b. No members of the Endowment Fund Committee shall serve more than two consecutive terms after which there shall be at least a three-year interval before a person may again be elected.
- c. Elections to the Endowment Fund Committee shall be made within thirty-one (31) days after the beginning of the congregation's fiscal year.
- d. In the event of a vacancy on the Endowment Fund committee, the Church Council shall make an appointment to fill the unexpired term.

C14.01.04 The Endowment Fund shall be established and increased through gifts and bequests naming the Endowment Fund of St. Paul Lutheran Church as beneficiary. The Endowment Fund Committee may choose not to accept any potential gift or bequest. Gifts may be in the form of:

- a. Cash, bequests, memorials, deferred gifts

- b. Stocks, bonds, life insurance contracts, certificates of deposit or other negotiable instruments.
- c. Real and/or personal property which can be sold for cash.

C14.01.05 Funds to increase the principal of the Endowment Fund shall be sought and accepted at any time. Donors and memorials shall be given proper recognition unless requested otherwise.

C.14.01.06 The assets of the Endowment Fund shall be invested by the Endowment Fund Committee in consultation with a Financial Advisor for investment with the long term goal of growing principal and realizing a reasonable average return on the investments.

C14.01.07 Definition of Principal

a. Principal is defined as all gifts and bequests received, plus all investment income not expended preceding the prior fiscal year.

C14.01.08 Each fiscal year, the Endowment Fund committee shall expend the lesser of:

a. The Endowment Fund net income from the prior fiscal year or

b. Seven (7) percent of the Endowment Fund principal balance at the beginning of the prior fiscal year.

C14.01.09 Funds shall be expended as determined proper by the Endowment Fund Committee.

C14.01.10 Specific expenditures shall be made as follows:

- a. Expenditure requests for specific programs may be made by the congregational committees or organizations within the congregation. Such requests shall be made in writing to the Endowment Fund Committee by December 1st of the year.
- b. Upon approval of the request, the Endowment Fund Committee shall direct the congregational Treasurer to disburse the funds.

C14.01.11 The Endowment Fund records shall be subject to an annual audit, and the Endowment Fund Committee shall file an

annual report for inclusion with the Annual Report of the congregation.

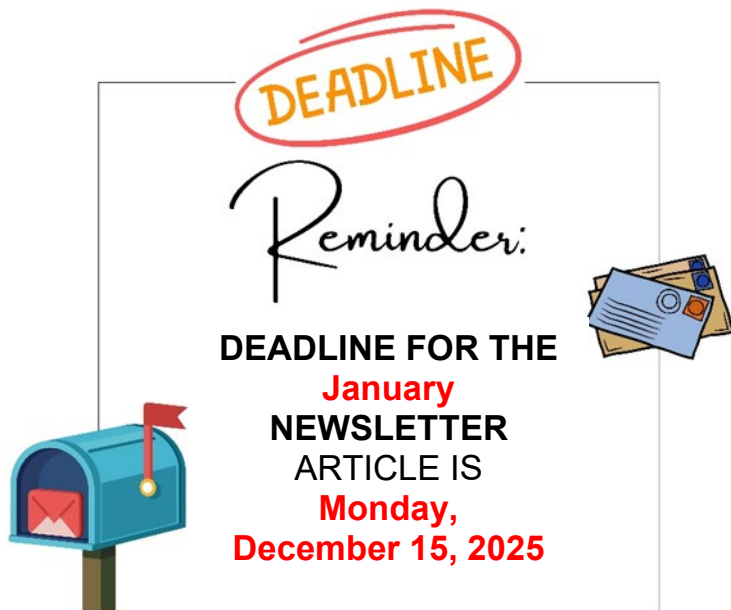
C14.10.12 The Endowment Fund Committee may seek legal and other professional counsel as necessary upon approval by the Church Council. Legal fees may be charged administrative expenditures and paid from available income of the Endowment Fund

C14.01.13 The Endowment Fund committee shall meet as necessary. All such meetings shall be governed by the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the congregation. Written minutes of all meetings shall be provided to the Church Council.

C14.01.14 Amendments to these Bylaws can be enacted or amended by members of the congregation at the annual Congregational Meeting or a called meeting.

Financial Report

GENERAL FUND		YTD 2025	BUILDING FUND		YTD 2025
Beginning Balance		\$43,881.83	Beginning Balance		\$112,059.71
Income		\$568,935.37	Income		\$72,052.84
Expenses		<u>(\$572,754.31)</u>	Expenses		<u>(\$132,006.66)</u>
Ending Balance		\$40,062.89	Ending Balance		\$52,105.89
Totals as of 11/18/2025					
Investment w/ LPL Financial:					
\$75,553.63					



Upcoming Christian Life Events:

December 14, 2025 – Christmas Feast



December 14, 2025, we will have a catered meal of roast beef & gravy, cheese potatoes, green beans and a salad. The congregation is asked to bring a dessert to share. The meal will be served at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up sheets will be in the Church and Fellowship Hall.

Baptisms IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Kelsi Faye Camp, daughter of Caylen Boehm and Walker Camp, was baptized on November 16, 2025.



We have an abundance of dishes and containers that have been left in the kitchen after bringing a dish to a function. Please make plans to pick them up soon.

I wanted to say Thanks to all who made the 2025 Community Thanksgiving come together. It was a great time to have our community churches to fellowship with each other and the people of Yorktown. Please, mark your calendars for next year's Community Thanksgiving which is set to be held on November 8, 2026. We will continue to have the event on the second Sunday of November each year.



Tonie Powell Jump
Ministry Assistant
First Baptist Church of Yorktown

Great job!



I had 10 youth who attended the youth work day on 10/26. They worked very hard cleaning and polishing the pews in our sanctuary! They earned \$2000.00 towards the cost of the youth sport court. If you see, Molly, Abigail, or Bailey Gaus, Ellyn Warwas, Paige Rippamonti, Gwen & Hannah Kneese, Kellan & Kylie Diehl, or Aydn Garcia please give them a shout out! I am proud of all of them!



Great job!



Our youth are amazing!

The FFF put together goodie bags for the YKT Manor residents on Wednesday night 11/12. They earned \$183.30 towards the cost of the sports court.

If you see, Kyleigh, Landon, Dashawn, Aubry, Piper, Laylynn, Lainey, Ellyn, Ryan, Gwen or Shelby please give them a shout out for a job well done!

On Saturday 11/15 I had 9 youth who brought joy to the YKT Manor residents as they assisted them with playing bingo! It was a lot of fun!! They earned \$1090.18 towards the cost of the sport court.

If you see, Piper & Patrick Peyton, Lainey LemKe, Gwen, Owen & Hannah Kneese, Joseph & Xandy John or Aydn Garcia please give them a big shout out!

I am proud of all of them!



Mrs. Laurey

FFF *Calendar of* Events 2025

**NOV
15**

FFF BINGO

YORKTOWN MANOR 9:30-11:00A.M.

FFF DOORS & DINNER

YORKTOWN MANOR &
5D STEAK HOUSE 5-7:30P.M.

**DEC
06**

**DEC
17**

FFF SILLY SOCK CHRISTMAS PARTY

HAYRIDE/BASEMENT 6-8:30PM



YOUTH CHAT



Please congratulate Aydn Garcia on her perfect attendance in Sunday school for October!



Come join the St. Paul youth as we go caroling, Sunday, December 21, 2025! Afterwards join us in the fellowship hall for soup, sides and hot cocoa! We leave the church parking lot at 4PM!!

FFF DOORS & DINNER

FFF IS DECORATING DOORS AT YORKTOWN MANOR SATURDAY 12/6 5-5:30. LET'S MAKE THE RESIDENTS HOLIDAY A LITTLE BRIGHTER! AFTERWARDS WE WILL WALK TO 5D AND HAVE DINNER!



FFF Christmas Party

Wednesday 12/17!

We will start with a hayride to enjoy the Christmas lights then have dinner & exchange our silly socks!



DECEMBER FFF MENU

- 12/3 - Breakfast 4/Dinner
- 12/10 - Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, green beans, garlic bread & dessert
- 12/18 - Chicken penne pasta alfredo, salad, garlic bread & dessert



CHURCH FACILITIES NEED REPAIR:

Council has discussed 3 main concerns that need attention: replace an AC unit in the Sanctuary (completed), re-piping the Educational Building (completed), and water-damaged carpet to be replaced in the chapel. The total cost of these projects is \$94,147. If you would like to make a donation to this project, please label your offering “AC/PLUMBING/FLOOR”. We have raised a total of \$85,015 so far. Any help is greatly appreciated!



Offering Envelopes



2026 Offering Envelopes are available for pick up in the Sanctuary. You can also call the office (361-564-2135) and make arrangements to receive them.



We keep in our prayers the family and friends of:

Shirley Ann Moehrig - who passed away November 16, 2025. Services will be held November 25, 2025 at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

May the power of the resurrection continue to provide them assurance.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee has begun meeting to search for members to fill positions for Church Council, Endowment Committee, and delegates to the annual convention. There are four council positions to be filled, one position for the Endowment Committee, and the three delegates. The four positions for council to be filled are President, Worship Committee chair, Parish Education chair, and Youth Representative (a new position approved by council). Some have expressed an interest in filling these positions, however if others are interested, please contact one of the committee members. (Bill Klaevemann, Travis Peyton, Kim Hahn, Anna Foerster, Tina Boehm, or Aaron Koopmann).

A Church Council **Youth Representative** is a young person who serves on the Church Council with voice and vote to provide a youth perspective in the decision-making process. Their role is to represent the interests of the youth, share ideas for programs, and ensure youth are actively involved in shaping ministry. The Youth Representative will work with Pastor, Youth Director, other youth leaders, and sponsors to foster effective communication and planning. Information sheets which include key responsibilities and requirements are available in the church office, the Narthex of the church, and in the basement. If you are interested, please contact one of the Nominating Committee Members.



The flower chart for 2026 has been posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Make sure you get your name beside the date you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary.

* **Remember:** Don't forget to contact a flower shop to make arrangements for the flowers, and please pick them up after Sunday service.

COWBOY CLAUS: We will be collecting monetary gifts for the “Cowboy Claus” program, supported by the Western Days Committee this year. Make checks out to St. Paul with a notation for “Cowboy Claus.” Place cash gifts in an envelope labeled “Cowboy Claus.” Let's help a child have a Merry Christmas! **Deadline is Sunday, December 7, 2025**



Additional Altar Guild members are needed. If you can help with this important ministry, please contact Beverly Bruns or the Church office.

AS WE CELEBRATE THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

and the gift of the Christ child as our Lord and Savior, and as we prepare with gifts for our family and friends, may we honor the work that our staff has done for us this year. The congregation is invited to make gifts to the staff. (Staff includes: Office staff, custodian, maintenance, nursery attendant, and musicians.) Checks should be made payable to St. Paul Lutheran. Please write “Staff Gift” on your envelope and/or check.

Please make your gifts by Wednesday, December 17th.



**The Annual Congregational Meeting
will be held Sunday, January 25, 2026
- immediately following the Worship
Service.**

Notice to all Committee Chairs –
Annual Reports are due in the Church Office by Monday, January 5, 2026 for publication in the Annual Report of St. Paul.



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN USHER LIST FOR 2026

JANUARY		JULY	
Head Usher: Jay Heil		Head Usher: Ricky Hilbrich	
John Frels		Eric Gaus	
Braden Hahn		Ron Gips	
Chad Hahn		Mark Lincke	
Scott Stevenson		Albert Metting	
FEBRUARY		AUGUST	
Head Usher: Ricky Hilbrich		Head Usher: Darren Seifert	
Larry Gohmert		Carl Clyne	
Jesse Hurta		Michael Franke	
Marley Hurta		Cody Geffert	
John Rippamonti		Layne Geffert	
MARCH		SEPTEMBER	
Head Usher: Darren Seifert		Head Usher: Boyd Weise	
Kurt Foerster		Fred Hahn	
Trent Foerster		Spence Innocenti	
Kevin Styra		Mark Lincke	
Mark Weischwill		Travis Peyton	
APRIL		OCTOBER	
Head Usher: Boyd Weise		Head Usher: Allen Leist	
Clark Kerlick		Calvin Bruns	
Arlen Parma		Clay Caran	
Michael Ressman		John Carriger	
Don Wieland		Jeremy Kneese	
MAY		NOVEMBER	
Head Usher: Allen Leist		Head Usher: Jay Heil	
Wade Bolting		Jason Bloch	
Glen Henze		Wryston Fischer	
Carl Matejek		Chris Gohmert	
Royce Pargmann		Allen Machost	
JUNE		DECEMBER	
Head Usher: Jay Heil		Head Usher: Ricky Hilbrich	
Mark Fehner		Kaiden Hilbrich	
Ty Fehner		Haydn Innocenti	
Michael Sinast		Noah Innocenti	
James Urban		Danny Metting	

**2026
ALTAR GUILD**

MONTH OR DATE	CLEANING OF THE COMMUNION ELEMENTS
JANUARY	Judy Hilbrich & Krista Kerlick
FEBRUARY	Laurie Stevenson & Sharon & Callen Matejek
Ash Wednesday (February 18)	Karen Dueser & Linda Hurta
MARCH	Misty Corpus & Peggy Oliver
APRIL	Reevie Gips & Wanda Rohan
Maundy Thursday (April 2)	Laurey Garcia & Ayden Garcia
Easter (April 5-1st Service)	Penny Sievers & Beverly Bruns
Easter (April 5- 2nd Service)	Laurey Garcia & Ayden Garcia
MAY	Misty Corpus & Peggy Oliver
JUNE	Laurie Stevenson & Sharon & Callen Matejek
JULY	Wysenda Fischer & Wycoda Janysek
AUGUST	Carolyn Bargmann & Deborah Niemeier
SEPTEMBER	Karen Dueser & Linda Hurta
OCTOBER	Judy Hilbrich & Krista Kerlick
NOVEMBER	Penny Sievers & Miranda Rohan
DECEMBER	Laurey Garcia & Ayden Garcia
Christmas Eve (1st Service)	Patsy Ibrom & Laura Kaiser
Christmas Eve (2nd Service)	Laurey Garcia & Aydn Garcia

One person can easily clean the Communion Elements & Linens, just let your Altar Guild partner know if you need to be absent. Feel free to trade with someone if something comes up. If both need to be gone, please call Altar Guild Chairman or Worship Committee Chairman.

Changing of the Paraments – Carlea Hahn & Linda Hurta

Altar Guild Chairman – Beverly Bruns

Substitutes – Wysenda Fischer, Karen Dueser & Linda Hurta

THE LEARNING GARDEN NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025



CURRICULUM

Toddler & Two-Year-Olds

Our Toddler and Two-Year-Olds are learning Opposites. In/out, Inside/outside, up/down, over/under, on/off, open/close, big/little, open/close.

Preschool

Our Preschool students are learning about Safe & Healthy Me. How we stay safe, how we eat healthy, how we eat well, and how active we are.

Bible

Our children will learn all about Advent, Mary and Joseph going to Bethlehem, how there was no room at the Inn, Baby Jesus' Birth, and the Angels and Shepherds.



Enrollment/Staffing

Children: 50
Teachers: 10
Administration: 2
Support Staff: 2

Upcoming Events

- DECEMBER 1ST: THE SHEPHERD ON THE SEARCH BEGINS
- DECEMBER 21ST: FIRST DAY OF WINTER
- DECEMBER 24TH-26TH: CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS
- DECEMBER 31ST: CLOSED FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Contact Info

Email:
thelearninggardenyorktown@gmail.com
Phone: (361) 564-9444
Website: learninggardenykt.com





The Women's Bible Study Groups will meet on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 for a Christmas Potluck Luncheon and Bible Study at 10:00 am. All Women of the Congregation are welcome to join in this activity. We enjoy a lot of fellowship through service.



In memory of Barbara Audilet – Building

Helen Breed

In memory of Lovel Blain III – AC/Plumbing/Floor

Lyn Janssen

In memory of Lovel Blain III – Building

Spence & Rebecca Innocenti

Aaron & Erin Koopmann

Dennis Henze

Caroline Blain

In memory of Lovel Blain III – Senior Scholarship

Arlen & Kathie Fehner

In memory of Lovel Blain III – Youth Building

Jay & Sandra Heil

In memory of Aubrey Breed – Building

Helen Breed

In memory of Fred Broll – Senior Scholarship

Arlen & Kathie Fehner

In memory of Edgar Foerster – Building

Barbara Cramer

Bill & Debbie Niemeier

In memory of Edgar Foerster – FFF

Ricky & Judy Hilbrich

In memory of Edgar Foerster – Youth Building

Jay & Sandra Heil

In memory of Paul Hilbrich – Building

Helen Breed

In memory of Benny Kyrisch – Building

Helen Breed

In memory of Sammy Kyrisch – Building

Helen Breed

In memory of Michael Pattillo – Senior Scholarship

Oleta Pattillo

In memory of Kendall Sandage – CEM

Gail Riedesel

Lyn Janssen

In memory of Kendall Sandage – Radio

Dr. & Mrs. John Frels

In memory of Kendall Sandage – Senior Scholarship

Arlen & Kathie Fehner

Martha Geffert

Steven & Debbie Kneese

In memory of Kendall Sandage – Youth Building

Charles & Bonnie Riedesel

JoAnn Cornelius

Roger & Deborah K. Geffert

Melanie Johnson

Linda Koehler

Arlen & Cindy Parma

Jesse & Linda Hurta

Helen Breed

Clarence & Pat Wessels

Caroline Blain

Curtis & Karen Koenig

Rachel Robinson

Cindy Kainer

Darren & Kim Clutter

Marcia Alex

Leon & Vivian Respondek

Stephen & Christine Blaschke

Tommy & Eva Stehling

Don & Diana Ford

DeWayne & Janice Curry

Shirley & Susan Moczygamba

Bridget Hairell

Miranda Gallegos

Darryl & Shirley Mueller

Dorothy Mayfield

Brian & Laurie Wendel

Roy & Kristy (Gras) Compean

Thomas & Bonnie Stepanski

Judy Sinast

Jimmy & Kathy Gips

Tracy Sinast & Ken Stapleton

Kitty Sievers

Ty & Deneice Sinast, Dylan, Kailey & Kendyll Sinast

Bill & Debbie Niemeier

Susan Parma

James & Joan Urban

Marlene Fromme

Mr. & Mrs. Glenwood Willms

Dennis & Sheryl Mueller

In memory of LeRoy Strakos – Building

Helen Breed

In memory of Nelda Warzecha – FFF

Ricky & Judy Hilbrich

In memory of Nelda Warzecha – Senior Scholarship

Charles & Jan Ruppert

Barbara Kerlick

In memory of Howard Weise – Building

Helen Breed

In memory of Gwenn Wolf – Senior Scholarship

Arlen & Kathie Fehner

In memory of Ramona Yanes – Building

Joyce Lamprecht

~Gifts in memory and in honor of are as of November 16, 2025.

Please remember to **write on your OFFERING ENVELOPE** a specific fund for your memorial offering to go to. It defaults to building fund unless it is noted.



SCRIPTURE READINGS

DECEMBER 2025

Sunday, December 7, 2025 – 2nd Sunday of Advent



First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7

Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday, December 14, 2025 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm: Psalm 146

Second Lesson: James 5:7-11

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-15



Sunday, December 21, 2025 – 4th Sunday of Advent

First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-17

Psalm: Psalm 24

Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25



Sunday, December 28, 2025 – 1st Sunday after Christmas

First Lesson: Isaiah 63:7-14

Psalm: Psalm 111

Second Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23





HONOR OR REMEMBER A SPECIAL PERSON IN YOUR LIFE

by having Poinsettias placed in the Sanctuary during the Christmas Season. Please complete the form below, make out a check to St. Paul Lutheran Church, and place this form and your check in the offering plate or drop it by the church office.

☐ Make a Donation to the Building Fund \$ _____

☐ POINSETTIA (cost is \$19.50 each)

~ In Honor of: _____

By: _____

~ In Memory of: _____

By: _____

~ To the Glory of God, by: _____

Please **PRINT** clearly.

Additional forms are available in the Annex, Narthex and on the table in front of the church office.

Please don't delay – Order today!

**The office *will not*
be able to accept orders after
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025**

*Poinsettias may be picked up after the
Christmas Eve Worship Service.*

Any Poinsettias left in the sanctuary by the end of that week will be removed.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
234 NORTH GOHMERT STREET,
SUITE A
YORKTOWN, TX 78164

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