GOOD NEWS



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 Live Stream @ www.stpaulykt.org

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

From the Pastor

Here comes Advent! And thus begins the church's annual battle with the secular 'sale-abration'!

Advent (from the Latin word for 'coming') originally emphasized the final coming and judgment of Christ and thus asked worshippers to focus on repentance. The emphasis changed in the 6th century to preparation. Today, we make these four weeks before Christmas both a time of repentance and preparation -- a kind of 'winter Lent'.

In many ways, Christians have always gone against the world's current, and so we are called to do the same in our time. A couple of ways you might refocus the 'sale-abration' mentality in your own life:

(1) Focus your time on the Advent wreath or Advent Log rather than on 'x-shopping-days-to- Christmas.

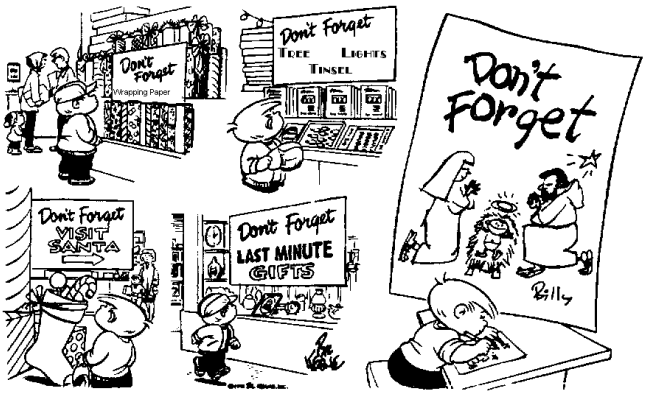
(2) Rather than tell stories about Santa Claus, tell about the real St. Nicholas, bishop of Myra in the forth century. Few facts about him are known, but legend says he aided the poor and once saved three daughters from a life of prostitution by putting three purses through the window of their homes for their dowries. Because he was kind to many and assisted them with gifts, he was impersonated in later years by a man with a white beard and in the red vestments of a bishop who was kind to children.

Advent is a time to receive again Christ into our lives. May it be that kind of time for you!

(article adapted from Pastor Casey Zesch)

Your Pastor,
Tim W Muehlbrad

THE FAMILY CIRCUS





Christmas Program "The New Star"

What if stars could talk and share stories? Come and hear how one experienced star welcomes and shares the story about Jesus' birth with a brand new star. Who really is this older star anyway? We hope you will join us for the program and see these answers during the worship service on Sunday Dec. 13th. 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 22nd (Older classes- Preschool regular class in Basement) practice during Sunday School AND perhaps costume fitting following Sunday School (shouldn't take long for this)

Sunday Nov. 29th (Older classes- Preschool regular class in Basement) practice during Sunday School

Sunday Dec. 6th Important (ALL classes) practice during Sunday School

Sat. Dec 12th Important Dress Rehearsal 9:30 a.m. ALL Classes

Sunday Dec. 13th be at church for costumes and the performance at **8:15 a.m.**

We hope all of you can join us on the 13th to hear about the newest star!

A Christmas Children's Sermon series on the names of Jesus!

Each of the four Advent Sundays we will be talking about the meaning of some of the names for Jesus. What is the story behind them? There are some interesting things about the names we hear Jesus called and how they apply to His coming as a baby at Christmas! We will be providing some things each time so the children can build their own Christmas display with the piece introduced each week. Each new piece will symbolize that name. They can be put together to make a Christmas display of all the names we will talk about on the 4 Advent Sundays.

Then on Christmas Eve at the Children's Message, you will receive a special final piece to complete your display! So, try to be there for all four Sundays in Advent and Christmas Eve to make your special Christmas display of the Names of Jesus! (if you can't make every Sunday, we will have extras for you)

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 June 20-25. 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 20th. 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. When we receive that code form the camp, we will make it available to you. 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.

We are looking for a female sponsor to attend that week. It is a good week to rest and catch up as an adult and enjoy watching the youth as they have fun. Your costs are covered by the church. Please talk to Terry if you are interested.

Two Advent Calendar Opportunities for Advent 2026

Sunday School students will receive "Gifts 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 2027!

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 10th, 2027! 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 29th 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!

VBS Help Needed!

The Lord is calling someone to assist with one of our children's ministry programs. We are seeking a volunteer to help organize Vacation Bible School (VBS) for students in 1st through 5th grade this summer. You will have plenty of support, including assistance from members of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches. We simply need someone to help coordinate and organize the week's activities. Again, you will not be doing this alone. There will be many people ready to help! If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Terry, Erin Koopmann, or the church office.

Christmas Caroling on Dec. 20th

We will be riding through the city on our trailers to spread some Christmas cheer and songs on Sunday, Dec 20th. 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!

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 10, 2026 @ 6 PM

Empowered by the holy spirit to make Christ known; as we love one another, serve our neighbors, 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 Jeremy Kneese, President. Council members present for the meeting were Jeremy Kneese, Calvin Bruns, Susan Franke, Larry Gohmert, Linda Hurta, Erin Koopmann, Ashleigh Peyton, and Pastor Tim Muehlbrad. Terry Carmichael and Katie Serrano were also in attendance.
2. **DEVOTION**- Erin Koopmann opened the meeting with prayer.
3. **MINUTES-** Linda Hurta made a motion, which was seconded by Erin Koopmann, to accept the minutes from September 8, 2026. The motion carried.
4. **REPORTS-**
    a. **Treasurer/Stewardship-** Calvin Bruns provided a written report.
    b. **Parish Education-** Erin Koopmann reported:
        1. Planning and preparations for the Christmas program, which will be on Sunday, Dec. 13th, are underway. Terry and I went over several scripts and narrowed them down to the one we thought would be best for this year. I placed sign-up sheets for children to start signing up in the basement, the church, and the foyer of the educational building. I spoke with Laurey about the junior high students filling and passing out the bags after the Christmas program, and she said they would take care of that. There will be practices for the program during the

Sunday school hour on Nov. 22nd, 29th, and Dec. 6th for the elementary-aged students. There is a dress rehearsal planned for Saturday, Dec. 12th, at 9:30 a.m.

2. Terry and I discussed ordering Christmas gifts for the Sunday school teachers. He is going to place an order for that.
3. There will be no Sunday school on Dec. 27th.
4. On Sunday, January 10th, there will be a mini-rally day to kick start the next semester of Sunday school, with songs and games planned for the Sunday school hour.
5. We will begin collecting cans for YAM at Sunday school soon for Advent.

c. **Youth Committee Report-** No report provided.
d. **Youth Representative-** No report provided.
e. **DCE**- Terry Carmichael reported
    1. Besides the normal duties, the following were accomplished:
        a. Have been providing elementary Sunday school teachers with downloading, copying their new curriculum materials for the month, and placing them in their binders in their classrooms.
        b. Have been looking through Camp Lone Star Group Registration materials.
        c. Met with Erin Koopmann on the Christmas Program and education budgets.
        d. Assisted Pastor with teaching Confirmation classes.
        e. Attended the final 5th Quarter event on Friday, Oct. 30th, and I provided the devotion to the group. A big thank you also goes to Laurey Garcia for providing the snacks and the drinks that night.
        f. Attended the city-wide Trunk or Treat event and assisted with the popcorn.
        g. Will be assisting Pastor with guitar classes on Wed. evenings.

h. Attended several volleyball games, football games in- town and out-of-town.
i. Assisted with presenting Bibles to 2nd graders on 10/25.
j. Will be assisting by taking the meat portion of the Community Thanksgiving meal to the event at Gruenau Hall on Sunday, Nov. 8th.
k. Assisted Pastor and the Social Concerns Committee in helping a person in need get to the bus stop in Victoria to help her get home.

f. **Worship-** Linda Hurta reported:
1. Poinsettia order forms have gone out.
2. Poinsettias will be on display after the children's program.
3. Christmas trees will be set up for the children's program.
4. 8 students received acolyte training.
5. The choir will be singing this Sunday at the Thankoffering Service.

g. **Evangelism/Outreach-**
1. Trunk or Treat was success. 250 bags of popcorn were served.
2. Bags were passed out to the veterans last Sunday after church service.

h. **Social Concerns-** Susan Franke reported:
1. Assistance was provided to two individuals in **October** 2026:
a. Provided help for one individual with room $50.00
b. Provided help for one individual with electric bill $97.84

i. **Christian Life**- Kristin Schustereit reported:
1. We had about 60 in attendance at the October German potluck. The food was delicious.
2. Our next event will be the Thankoffering meal on November 15th. We will have turkey casserole, sweet potato casserole, savory green beans, autumn salad, gravy, cranberry sauce, and rolls. We are requesting the congregation to provide desserts.

j. **Property**- Larry Gohmert reported:
   1. ServPro plans to be here this week to perform the mold remediation in the Learning Garden. This project has been on hold since early February.
   2. Efficiency Air has completed their scheduled fall maintenance on our air conditioning systems and will install the big air conditioning unit in the church basement as soon as the outside unit is manufactured.
   3. Rise Broadband's fiber internet service has been working well, and James Teleco has completed the installation of our new phone system. The cellular connection for our elevator phone is installed and working. We are done with AT&T's copper lines, ahead of their November deadline.
   4. ME Plumbing has been called for a gas leak at Pastor's house, which has been repaired, and for a water leak in one of the church restrooms.
   5. Concerning the leak in the church roof, I met with representatives from Cox Brothers Roofing of Cuero and Buffalo Roofing of Victoria at the church more than a month ago. Both said they would be back to conduct a closer examination of the problem, but neither showed up. I am now waiting to hear back from Rain King of Victoria.
   6. Replacement of the front door at Parsonage 2 is complete.
   7. Annie Oakley Pest Control has removed a couple of visiting skunks from the church grounds.
   8. Mike Hoffmann of Tree Werks has started trimming the oak trees along the streets and parking lots after removing the large limb that fell from the big oak tree. Mike will be back next week for some additional trimming of the oak trees and for the removal of a couple of branches from a pecan tree near the sports court to allow electricity to be connected to the new building. AEP has the connection scheduled for November 16th.

9. I am working with our insurance carrier to get coverage on the Sports Court, both property and liability coverage.
10. We have been working with Anthony Netardus, the DeWitt County Extension Agent, concerning the big oak tree, and he has put us in contact with Dr. Stephanie Adams, a Board-Certified Master Arborist at Texas A&M University. We have been compiling answers to their numerous questions, as well as supplying photographs of the tree.
11. Lots of people have been helping me with all of the above topics, but I especially want to thank Alison, our church secretary. She has been eager to help and has provided many good suggestions, and I appreciate all that she does for our congregation.
12. No Bull Radio is streaming our church service to about 40 people.

k. **Cemetery**- No report provided.

l. **C.E.M.** Tracie Fielding provided a written report.

m. **Pastor-**

1. Professional activities during **October** 2026:
   a. 10 Worship Services
   b. 4 Hospital Visits
   c. 12 Home Visits
   d. 10 Educational Events
   e. 7 Church Meetings and Events
   f. 2 Professional Meetings
2. Official Acts during **October** 2026:
   a. 10/8 Burial of Judy Taylor
   b. 10/10 Committal Service for Larry and Elaine Henze
   c. 10/13 Burial of Elsie Nurnberger (nm)

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. Youth Sports Complex electricity is supposed to be connected on Nov. 16th. Mike from Treewerks is waiting for the ground to dry out to trim the trees.

b. Internet and phone service for the church and office is installed and working.

c. AC in the Sanctuary is installed. They are waiting for the outside unit that is on order to be delivered and will install it soon.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**
   a. Jeremy, Calvin, Pastor Tim, and Katy will meet soon to discuss budgets.
   b. Nominations: no update at this time.
   c. The report pertaining to the oak tree in the front was reviewed. Erin Koopmann made a motion that we further research our options for how the tree's wood could be used if it is removed. Larry Gohmert seconded the motion. The motion carried.
   d. We are a month behind on our 6th month evaluation of Alison. So far, Alison has received very positive feedback from the congregation, the council, and her colleagues. Linda Hurta moved to give Alison a one-time bonus for a job well done, which was seconded by Larry Gohmert. The motion carried.
7. **CLOSING-** Linda Hurta made a motion, which was seconded by Susan Franke, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried, and the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashleigh Peyton

2026 COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT – Jeremy Kneese
SECRETARY – Ashleigh Peyton
PARISH ED – Erin Koopmann
STEWARDSHIP – Calvin Bruns
WORSHIP – Linda Hurta
CHRISTIAN LIFE – Kristin Schustereit
PROPERTY – Larry Gohmert
SOCIAL CONCERNS – Susan Franke
YOUTH – Laurey Garcia
EVANGELISM/OUTREACH – Wade Bolting
YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE – Aydn Garcia

Financial $ Report

GENERAL FUND	YTD 2026	BUILDING FUND	YTD 2026
Beginning Balance	**$26,640.79**	**Beginning Balance**	**$97,219.18**
Income	$612,392.62	Income	$115,098.08
Expenses	($619,442.36)	Expenses	($185,464.48)
Ending Balance	$19,591.05	Ending Balance	$26,852.78

Totals as of 11/16/2026

Investment w/ LPL Financial:

$36,950.87

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!

R E M I N D E R:

DEADLINE FOR THE
January
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLE IS
Monday,
December 21, 2026





Big Live Oak Tree

The big Live Oak tree has been losing major limbs over the past several years and has not looked healthy. A study was conducted by Stephanie Adams, PhD, Extension Plant Pathologist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension to let us know the condition of the tree and how to proceed. **For a full copy of the report with pictures, please contact the church office.**

Here are a few excerpts of that report:

Site conditions

Factor	What was reported	Relevance to the tree
Soil	Loam	Generally a good soil for tree growth
Turfgrass care	Fertilizer applied; no herbicide use recalled	Low concern
Irrigation	Changed significantly in 2026	Likely added stress, but decline began years earlier
Weather	Hot, dry summer in 2026	Added stress on an already weakened tree
Public use	High-use area; tree currently roped or flagged off	Raises the consequences of any limb failure

The 2026 irrigation change is unlikely to be a primary cause of decline, since the canopy was already thinning by 2013. It may be part of the picture, however. Trees and turfgrass need water differently. Trees need long, slow soaking that reaches 10 to 16 inches into the soil, while turf is watered lightly and often. If a replacement tree is planted, irrigation should be set up with this in mind.

Canopy decline over time

Aerial imagery shows the canopy began thinning in 2013 and continued to decline over the following decade.

Image date	Observation
May 2008	Baseline image
March 3, 2013	Earliest signs of stress
September 2013	Canopy visibly thinning
January 23, 2016	Thin areas in the canopy interior, especially the southeast side
January 16, 2021	Continued decline
June 2023	Thin canopy; decline clearly noticeable
January 28, 2024	Continued decline
November 2025	Continued decline
November 2026	Church photographs of current condition

The **June 2023 image** is a useful reference for the future. When a canopy looks like this, it is the stage at which an arborist or Extension specialist should be called in, while treatment still has a chance to stop the decline.

Limb failures

The tree has lost several large limbs, some appearing larger than 20 inches in diameter. Limbs have failed even in calm weather. Each large wound costs the tree energy to seal over, and a tree in decline is unlikely to close wounds of this size. Open wounds also give wood decay fungi a path in, which leads to more limb failures.

Internal decay

The cross-section photograph shows decay that has been present for a long time. The tree was not able to compartmentalize the decay, meaning its natural defenses failed to wall it off. Once decay has spread this way in a stressed tree, it is expected to continue and worsen.

Recommendation: removal

Based on safety and liability, I recommend removing the tree. Three findings support this:

1. The tree has a history of large limb failures, including in calm weather.
2. Internal decay is advanced and not contained, so more failures are likely.
3. The tree stands in a high-use public area, where roping or flagging does not remove the risk to people and property.

If the board chooses to attempt treatment

Treatment is possible but uncertain, and it does not address the hazard from existing decay. Root rot pathogens often move into older, stressed trees. If the fine absorptive roots that take up water and nutrients are damaged, the tree cannot recover until that problem is controlled. The steps would be:

1. **Test the roots.** Collect a sample of absorptive roots (about the width of an eyelash or smaller) and send it to the Texas Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab. Request testing for *Phytophthora* and *Rhizoctonia*.
2. **Treat any pathogen found.** Because the tree is already declining, start with a synthetic fungicide poured on the soil surface. This protects new roots as they emerge. Apply twice this fall and twice next spring, then evaluate the tree's response.
3. **Improve the soil.** If the tree stabilizes and stops declining, address soil conditions such as compaction to give the tree an advantage.
4. **Adjust irrigation.** Water with long, slow soaking that reaches 10 to 16 inches deep, separate from the turfgrass schedule.

Even if treatment succeeds, the tree will remain a limb failure risk because of its existing decay and large wounds. The area would need continued restriction and regular monitoring.


St. Paul
Lutheran Church
Christmas
Feast
Sunday, December 13, 2026
at 11:15 AM
Menu:
Roast Beef • Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans • Rolls
Broccoli Salad
Congregation members are asked
to bring a dessert.
Sign up sheets will be available
in the narthex, annex, and church office.
Please sign up by December 6th.

WOC
December Meeting

Monday, December 1

We will be having our annual

Christmas Potluck Luncheon

We will gather at **10:00 a.m.**
and begin with singing Christmas Carols
and handling any business that needs to be discussed.

Next on the agenda is
enjoying food and fellowship.

All women of the church are invited to join us.



The flower chart for 2027 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 6, 2026**



SANTA FOR SENIORS We will be collecting monetary gifts for the "Santa for Seniors" program, supported by the Yorktown Chamber this year. Make checks out to St. Paul with a notation for "Santa for Seniors." Place cash gifts in an envelope labeled "Santa for Seniors." Let's help a senior have a Merry Christmas!
Deadline is Sunday, December 6, 2026

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 16th.

Notice to all Committee Chairs – Annual Reports are due in the Church Office by Monday, January 4, 2027, for publication in the Annual Report of St. Paul.



Christmas Caroling



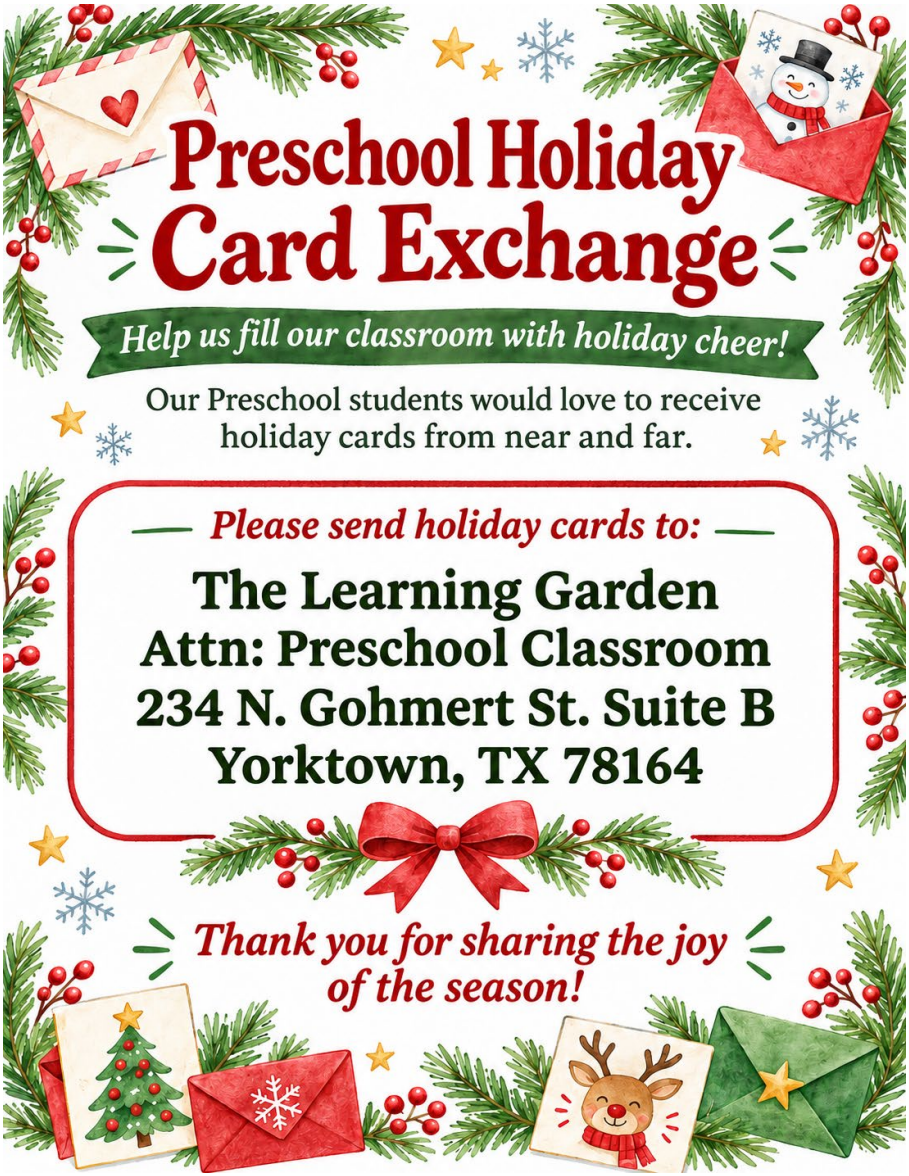
Sunday, December 20, 2026 @ 4:00

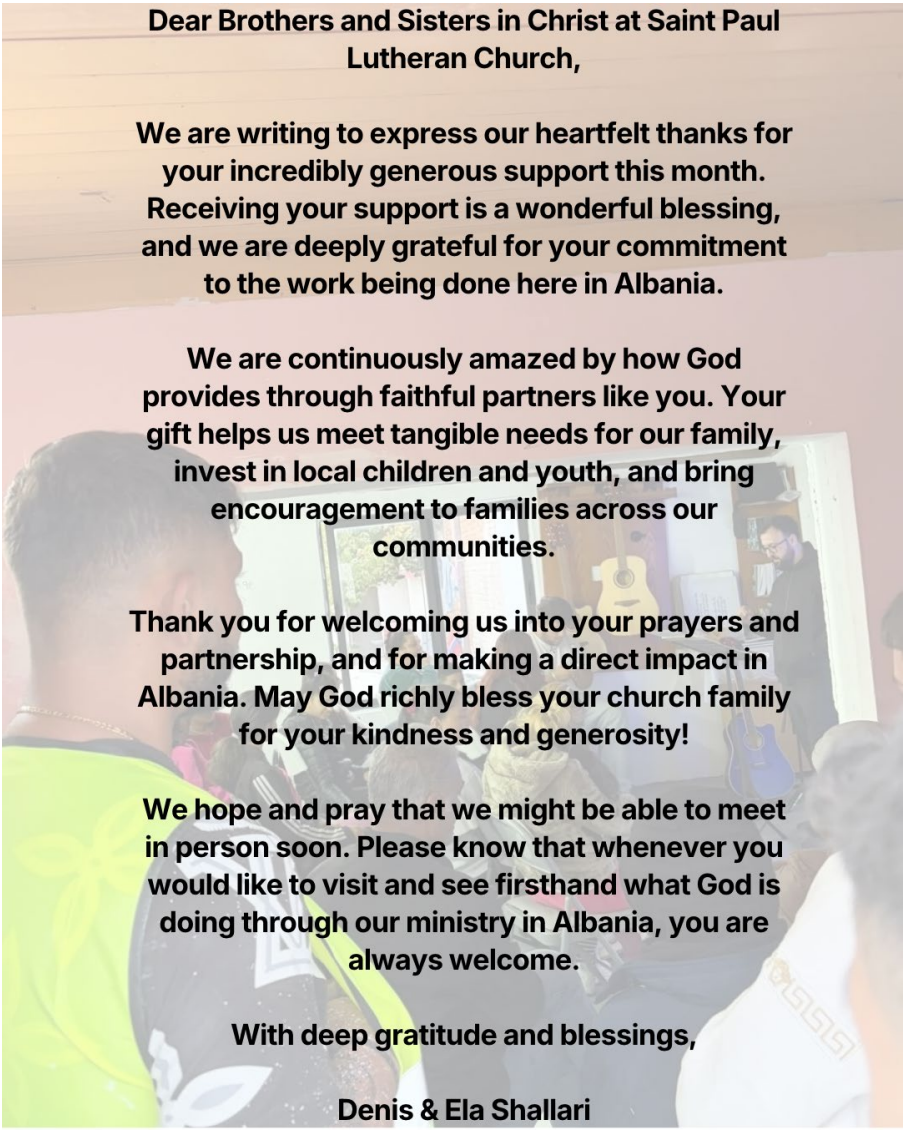
Meet in the parking lot at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Soup and hot cocoa afterwards in the fellowship hall.

Please sign up!

Sign-up sheets will be in the church, the basement, the bulletin board in the fellowship hall across from the office.


Preschool Holiday
Card Exchange
Help us fill our classroom with holiday cheer!
Our Preschool students would love to receive
holiday cards from near and far.
Please send holiday cards to:
The Learning Garden
Attn: Preschool Classroom
234 N. Gohmert St. Suite B
Yorktown, TX 78164
Thank you for sharing the joy
of the season!


Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Saint Paul Lutheran Church,
We are writing to express our heartfelt thanks for your incredibly generous support this month. Receiving your support is a wonderful blessing, and we are deeply grateful for your commitment to the work being done here in Albania.
We are continuously amazed by how God provides through faithful partners like you. Your gift helps us meet tangible needs for our family, invest in local children and youth, and bring encouragement to families across our communities.
Thank you for welcoming us into your prayers and partnership, and for making a direct impact in Albania. May God richly bless your church family for your kindness and generosity!
We hope and pray that we might be able to meet in person soon. Please know that whenever you would like to visit and see firsthand what God is doing through our ministry in Albania, you are always welcome.
With deep gratitude and blessings,
Denis & Ela Shallari

Small Children Big Dreams Together Brighter World

The LEARNING GARDEN

Let the little children come to me. Matt. 19:14

DECEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

Week of December 7

Toddlers/Twos: Opposites: On/Off, Open/Closed

Preschool: Safe & Healthy Me: Eating Well

Week of December 14

Toddlers/Twos: Opposites: Big/Little, Hard/Soft

Preschool: Safe & Healthy Me: Active Me

Week of December 21

Christmas Week

Week of December 28

New Year's Week

BIBLE FOCUS

Week of December 7

Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem

Jesus is Born

Luke 2:1–5

Week of December 14

Shepherds and Angels

1st Visitors to the Baby

Luke 2:11

Week of December 21

Christmas Week

Week of December 28

New Year's Week

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **All Month:** National Influenza Vaccination Month
- **December 7th–22nd:** TLG Dress Up Days
- **December 11th:** Family Christmas Meal
- **December 21st:** Winter Solstice
- **December 23rd:** TLG Closed
- **December 24th:** TLG Closed — Christmas Eve
- **December 25th:** TLG Closed — Christmas Day
- **December 31st:** TLG Closed — Staff Development Day

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Current Enrollment: 57 | Waitlist: 7



Planting seeds of faith, learning, and love!



We keep in our prayers the family and friends of:

Debbie Yount - who passed away October 21, 2026. Services were held October 26, 2026, at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Vernon Sparck – who passed away October 30, 2026. Services were held November 13, 2026, at Massey Funeral Home.

Gerald Allison – who passed away November 5, 2026. Services were held November 12, 2026, at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church.

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



In memory of Gerald Allison – Building Fund
Ricky & Judy Hilbrich
In memory of Gerald Allison – Elevator Fund
Jim & Judy Noster Carlton & Sandra Bolting
In memory of Gerald Allison – Senior Scholarship
Steven & Debbie Kneese
In memory of Gerald Allison – General Fund
Velma Lee Moritz
In memory of Bill Bargman – Cemetery
Bert, Barbara, John & Jason Biemer
In memory of Helen Breed – Cemetery
Bert, Barbara, John & Jason Biemer
In memory of Caroline Blain – Cemetery
David & Patsy Ibrom
In memory of Edward Head – Building Fund
Michael & Kim Blaschke
In memory of Larry Henze – Cemetery
Bert, Barbara, John & Jason Biemer
In memory of Mary Hoefling – Senior Scholarship
David & Patsy Ibrom
In memory of William Koopmann – Cemetery
Bert, Barbara, John & Jason Biemer
In memory of Lana Krietsch – Elevator Fund
David & Patsy Ibrom
In memory of Hilmer Potcinske – Operating Fund
Jay & Sandra Heil
In memory of Janet Powell – Building Fund
Michael & Kim Blaschke
In memory of Wanda Rohan – Cemetery

Bert, Barbara, John & Jason Biemer

In memory of Alice Roger – Elevator Fund

Jim & Judy Noster

In memory of Mary Lee Saunders – Elevator Fund

Jim & Judy Noster

In memory of Mary Lee Saunders – Senior Scholarship

Steven & Debbie Kneese

In memory of Vernon Sparck – Elevator Fund

Arlen & Kathie Fehner
Jim & Judy Noster
David & Patsy Ibrom
Carlton & Sandra Bolting

In memory of Vernon Sparck – Building Fund

Spence & Rebecca Innocenti
Ricky & Judy Hilbrich
Gail Riedesel
Travis & Ashleigh Peyton
Arlen & Cindy Parma
Michael & Kim Blaschke
Carolyn Stewart
Ronald Afflerbach
Dennis Henze
Jesse & Linda Hurta
Shirley Dueser
Carolyn Bargmann
Rosie Sparck

In memory of Vernon Sparck – Senior Scholarship

Charles & Jan Ruppert
John & Jessica Rippamonti
Steven & Debbie Kneese

In memory of Vernon Sparck – Cemetery Mowing Bonus

Mark Lincke

In memory of Vernon Sparck – General Fund

Velma Lee Moritz

In memory of Vernon Sparck – Landscaping

Dorothy Mayfield

In memory of Judy Taylor – Building Fund

Robert & Lisa Kirkwood

In memory of Debbie Yount – Building Fund

Brian & Kelly Naranjo
Jesse & Linda Hurta
Barbara Cramer
Gaylon & Laura Kaiser
Robert & Marjorie Georg
Rick & Peggy Savage
Carolyn Wells
Rose Schuenemann
Byran & Melanie Friedrichs
John & Lori Green
Carolyn Bargmann
James & Brenda Nash
Michael & Kim Blaschke

In memory of Debbie Yount – Elevator Fund

Jim & Judy Noster

In memory of Debbie Yount – Senior Scholarship

Charles & Jan Ruppert
Martha Geffert
David & Patsy Ibrom
Steven & Debbie Kneese
Charles & Bonnie Riedesel
Oleta Pattillo

In memory of Debbie Yount – Youth Sports Court

Kermit & Doris Koehler
Andy & Jan Schlinke

In memory of Debbie Yount – Operating Fund

Jay & Sandra Heil

~Gifts in memory and in honor of are as of November 16, 2026.

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 2026

Sunday, December 6,2026 – Second Sunday of Advent



First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm: Psalm 85
Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8



Sunday, December 13, 2026 – Third Sunday of Advent

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm: Psalm 126
Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sunday, December 20, 2026 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

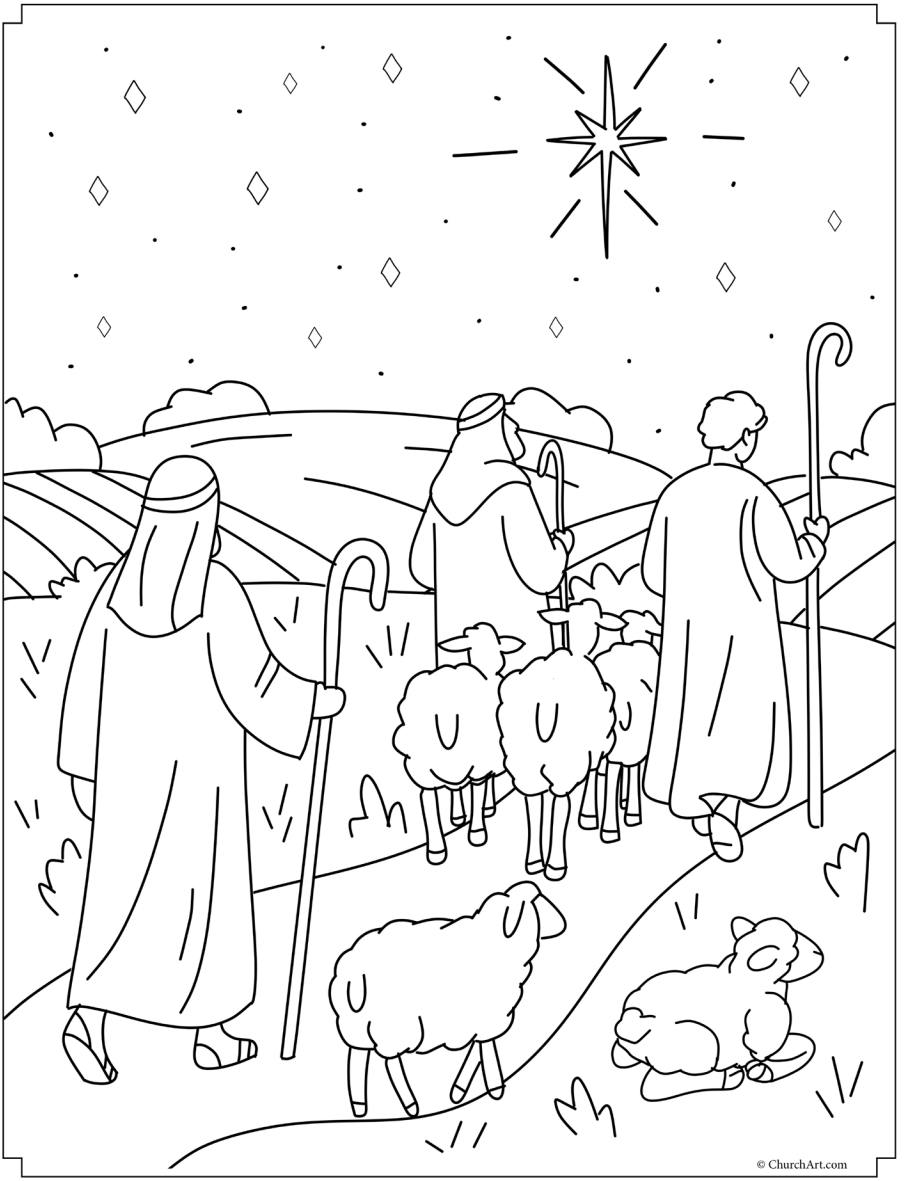


First Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Psalm: Psalm 89:1-5 [19-29]
Second Lesson: Romans 16:25-27
Gospel: Luke 1:26-28



Sunday, December 27, 2026 – First Sunday after Christmas

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:10-61:3
Psalm: Psalm 111
Second Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40


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Crossword Puzzle

Solve the following puzzle based on the clues given!











Across

[3] The man who married Mary

[4] One of these appeared to Mary.

[8] Joseph lived here.

[9] Mary and Joseph had to travel to this town.

[10] The name of the King who was jealous of Jesus.

Down

[1] Followed the star

[2] Jesus was placed here as a new-born baby.

[3] Who was born in the manger

[5] The mother of Jesus.

[6] These were in the field when the angel appeared

[7] The Angel who appeared to Mary

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IN HOLY EXPECTATION

We wait in hope.
We prepare in love.