

GOOD NEWS



St. Paul Lutheran Church

234 N. Gohmert St., Suite A
Yorktown, Texas 78164
Office: 361-564-2135

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.*



During this time of the holidays of Christmas and New Year many people do a lot of traveling. On January 6th we celebrate the Epiphany which has been associated with the Wise Men traveling to bring gifts to the child Jesus.

Epiphany is about traveling or about journeys. Epiphany is from a Greek word that means manifestation or "to make known". In the eastern world, Christians celebrate the nativity of Christ on this day rather than on December 25th. In a way God has made a journey; God has come to this earth and was made known. God came so that we could see him face to face and know who he is. By writing letters you can keep in touch with someone, by E-mail or texts you can get messages out, by talking on the telephone you can hear their voice, but by seeing someone face to face, a person is able to gain so much more. God came to earth so that we could gain a deeper insight into his love for us.

The wise men were the travelers of the first Epiphany. They were foreigners who traveled many miles in search of the new king whose birth was marked by the brightest star in the sky. Their goal was set before them; to worship the king was the foremost thought in their minds.

We too are the travelers of Epiphany. We are on a life's journey. But where are we going? Are we simply plodding along with no direction? Is our goal set before us? Do we take any and all sidetracks that look interesting?

In our journey through this new year, let us remember that Christ is walking beside us. We are not alone when we

hit the roadblocks or the
detour signs in our paths.
Our journey is with Christ
who helps us along our way.

Your Pastor,
Tim W Muehlbrad



"I got a part in the Christ-
mas play too! I'm one of the
three wise guys."



Important! Summer Camp News

This year we will be attending Camp Lone Star in LaGrange TX. We have reserved 19 spots for the week of July 13-18. Parents need to go online soon to register your 3rd through 8th grader for one of those slots that week. You will need a special code to do so. You will need this for the step that asks if you are part of a pioneer church group. Select "Yes" and enter the code. You can get the code from Terry or the church office.

While the deadline for registering is May 1st, they are highly encouraging us to register as quickly as possible as it will help determine their staffing needs. So please register soon!

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

1. Let us know if your youth will attend and is being registered

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 do not let money be a problem. This is such a marvelous experience and faith building week we do not want anything to get in the way of them attending. Just let Terry or the church office know.

Also, we know summer schedules can get tough. 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, also, looking for a female sponsor who would be willing to attend. Your way will be paid for and you can be as involved as you wish in the program. There will be time with the group but time for yourself to enjoy some alone time or refreshing time as well. If you are interested or have questions, please let Terry know.

In addition, we are planning a Camp Fund Fundraiser. We will be holding a Spaghetti Meal on Sunday Feb 16th from 10:30-noon. The meal is Spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, salad, and garlic bread. They will be \$10.00 and to go plates only. They may be purchased by pre-sale tickets only. Watch for more information soon.

Every Sunday is a BF (Bring a Friend) Sunday!

Bring a friend and be a “Fisher of Men”. Not only will you receive something special (as will your friend as well) but you will be following the call of Jesus to be a fisher of men!

OUR NEXT BFF SUNDAY IS: Sunday January 18th!

The Luther Banner...

The “Banner Class” went to the 1st and 2nd Graders again with an impressive attendance of 73% for the month of November. This banner is determined by the total number enrolled in the classes, the number of Sundays in the month, and then the number that attended in all those Sundays. They are entered into an Excel sheet that figures the percentage that attended. So, every Sunday you are in your class helps your chances of getting the banner!

So, plan on being there as many weeks as possible and have the banner hanging on your class door!

Rally Day AGAIN!

Sunday, January 12th we will gather together to celebrate our coming back after the Christmas break and the start of our Spring session as we continue to learn from God’s word! We will all meet together for an opening of songs and celebrating being together. Then we will have games for both the Nursery Department children and the older classes

It will be a great kick-off to our new Spring session of classes! We hope you will be there!

NOTE: We will not be holding classes on Jan. 26th so that all may attend the Annual Congregational Meeting



Church Council

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
December 10, 2024 - 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 Wiese, President. Council members present for the meeting were Boyd Weise, Calvin Bruns, Laurey Garica, Jay Heil, Jill Turner, Pam Hoefling, Wade Bolting, Ashleigh Peyton, and Pastor Tim Muehlbrad. Katie Serrano and Terry Carmichael were also in attendance.
2. **DEVOTION-** Jill Turner provided the devotion.
3. **MINUTES-** Laurey Garcia made a motion to accept the November 12, 2024, minutes as presented. Wade Bolting seconded the motion. The motion carried.
4. **REPORTS-**
 - a. **Treasurer/Stewardship-** Calvin Bruns provided a written report.
 - b. **Parish Education-** Jill Turner provided:
 1. The Children's Christmas Program was 12/8 and was a great success. All the children with speaking parts were present. I would like to acknowledge Zoe, Rebecca, Terry, Larry, and Laurey for all their hard work putting the program together!

- c. **Youth Committee Report-** Laurey Garcia reported:
1. After the catered meal and polka service, approximately 20 people joined us for Bunco on November 17, 2024.
 2. Doors & Dinner was tons of fun! We had 10 of our youth meet at Yorktown Manor and decorate approximately 25 doors. We then walked to the 5D Restaurant and enjoyed dinner and lots of fellowship as we played games and listened to music.
 3. There will be NO committee meeting in December.
 4. Our next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 @ 6 PM.
 5. **Youth Task Force**
 - a. At the November Council Meeting, I was asked to contact several companies to get bids on what it would cost to put a roof over the elevator parking area. My husband, Mario, contacted and met with Victoria Steel Erectors, VP Construction, as well as Rafter J Construction. We have received bids from everyone except VP Construction at this time.
 - b. Once we have received the bid from VP Construction, we will be able to bring them all before the council to be reviewed.
- d. DCE- Terry Carmichael reported:
1. Assisting with planning and leading the Sunday School openings, including making posters for our sayings, prayer song, and monthly songs so all can participate, including visitors or new students.

2. Have held the Children's Sermons on the four Sundays of Advent with a series on the Advent Wreath.
3. Continue leading the weekly Learning Garden Chapel Worships on Wed. and distributing their Chapel offerings to the church annex for the congregation to view.
4. Assisting the Childcare children with two songs for the Christmas Program.
5. Worked with Pastor on planning music choices for the Sunday School openings that correspond with the SPARK Curriculum for the fall.
6. Performed with PT & Friends on 10/19 and 10/20.
7. Continue meeting with the Confirmation class and assisting Pastor.
8. Continue leading the Learning Garden Chapels
9. Assisted with Bunco on 11/17.
10. Attended the Learning Garden Board Meeting on 11/20.
11. Continue leading the Learning Garden Chapels.
12. Worked with Pastor on possible summer camp destination and am now working on registration.
13. Have begun tracking the Sunday School attendance to award a banner to the class with the highest percentage of attendance each month.
14. Assisted the women with the setup of the video system for their bible study DVD and enjoyed their Christmas Luncheon with them at their invitation.

15. Attended and helped with popcorn at the city's Christmas Downtown Event.
16. Have been providing any needed assistance to the Christmas Program as requested and will help the Learning Garden children who attend with their songs for the program.
17. Other:
 - a. Attended several jr. high and high school basketball games
 - b. Attended some of the final high school and jr. high school football games
 - c. Continue to look at possible choir music choices for the choir for possible performance in the future
 - d. Attended several flag football games
- e. **Worship-** Jay Heil reported:
 1. Will contact Johnna Picard to provide the sermon on the week of Jan. 19th for Pastor Tim's Vacation.
- f. **Evangelism/Outreach-** Wade Bolting reported:
 1. The Evangelical Outreach attended Christmas Downtown in Yorktown and provided popcorn for the event. Children's books about the Nativity were handed out at the event as well as Christmas Scripture Bookmarks to adults and older children. About 100 books were handed out and 100 bookmarks.
- g. **Social Concerns-** Susan Franke reported:
 1. Assistance was provided to 2 individuals in November:
 - a. Provided help \$100.00 for water bill
 - b. Provided help \$100.00 for water bill

2. Thanks to the generous donations from the congregation, we were able to donate \$1,910.00 to Cowboy Claus.
- h. **Christian Life**-Pam Hoefling reported:
 1. On November 17, 2024, Christian Life hosted a German meal after the Polka Band Service. Approximately 60 attended.
 2. On December 8, 2024, a catered meal was served to 157 attendees.
- i. **Property**-Larry Gohmert Reported:
 1. I had hoped to have a bid for a maintenance contract on the Educational Building generator for this meeting, but that is still a work in progress.
 2. I am working on replacing two badly rusted benches in the playground area.
 3. Keith Lemke has been spraying for pests in our buildings for years but has announced that he will be retiring early next year. Since Bugmobile has been doing our termite spraying, we are planning to let them take over the rest of the pest control once Keith retires.
 4. I want to say a THANK YOU to all the volunteer “church mice” who quietly help take care of our properties. So many things are just silently done throughout the year, without any expectation of compensation or public praise. Well done, good and faithful servants!
- j. **Cemetery**- No report provided.
- k. **C.E.M.**-No report provided
- l. **Pastor**-
 1. Professional activities during **November** 2024:
 - a. 9 Worship Services
 - b. 1 Hospital Visit
 - c. 6 Home Visits
 - d. 6 Educational Events

- e. 7 Church Meetings and Events
- f. 1 Community Event
- 2. Official Acts during **November 2024**
 - a. 11/7 Burial of Will Sauermilch
 - b. 11/23 Burial of Robbie Boldt
 - c. 11/24 Baptism of Elizabeth Marie Gohmert

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. 2025 Budget Recommendation Approval.
 - 1. Discussion held pertaining to how raises are decided and if there is an evaluation process. There was a data sheet given out by ELCA that gave guidelines in the past, but since leaving and joining the NALC, we don't have those guidelines anymore. Laurey Garcia made a motion to create an evaluation committee to do annual performance evaluations of our employees. Pam Hoefling seconded the motion. The motion carried.
 - 2. Jay Heil made a motion to approve the 2025 budget as presented with the addendum giving Calvin Bruns the authority to make necessary changes to the budget as the need arises. Jill Turner seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- b. Nominating Committee Update
 - 1. The nominating committee found willing people to fill all positions needed except for the nominating committee members and the delegates.
- c. Youth Task Force Update
 - 1. Laurey Garcia reported that the bids received range from \$50,000- \$63,000 to cover the parking lot. Bids were received from Rafter J. Construction for \$59,900 and Victoria Steel Erectors gave two bids at \$50,000 and \$63,000.

We are still waiting on the bid from VP Construction

2. Laurey has contacted SZS and relayed that we are no longer looking into building a pavilion.
 3. Possibly interested in pursuing a property across on Gohmert street. The property has a house that sits on roughly ½ acre, and another piece of the property has a shed sitting roughly on another ½ acre. The owner is not going to give his asking price until the beginning of the 2025 year while working with a real estate agent. This property would be able to accommodate FFF and future presenters.
- d. Educational Building Windows Update
1. The windows have been ordered and will take from 6-12 weeks to be manufactured. The company will call when the windows are ready, and then they will call to schedule an installation date. The approximate timeline for installation is in February. So far, we have collected \$33,360.00 and we still need 23,825.00.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda discussed. At this time there is really nothing to discuss so far on the agenda.
- b. Annual reports are due on or before January 3, 2025, to allow distribution of the reports before the Annual Congregational Meeting.
- c. Jay Heil made a motion to approve Pastor Tim's Vacation request for Jan. 12-20, 2025. Laurey Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- d. Laurey Garcia made a motion to reschedule the Jan. 14, 2025, Council Meeting to Jan. 7, 2025. Pam Hoefling seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- e. Jay Heil made a motion to approve Rosa Horton as a new member of our congregation. Wade Bolting seconded the motion. The motion carried.
7. **CLOSING-** Jay Heil made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Laurey Garcia 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

Financial Report

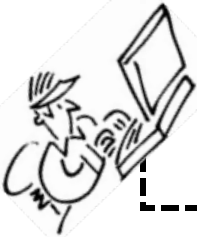
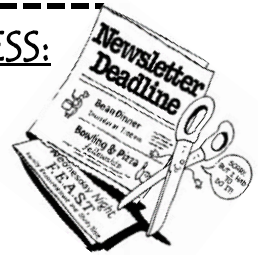
GENERAL FUND	YTD 2024	BUILDING FUND	YTD 2024
Beginning Balance	\$43,454.48	Beginning Balance	\$121,505.82
Income	\$645,387.07	Income	\$213,500.39
Expenses	(\$641,886.48)	Expenses	(\$226,829.69)
Ending Balance	\$46,955.07	Ending Balance	\$108,176.52
Totals as of 12/17/2024			
Investment w/ LPL Financial:			
\$101,030.44			

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!

R E M I N D E R:
DEADLINE FOR THE

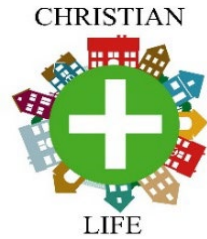
February
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLE IS
Monday,
January 20, 2025



Upcoming Christian Life Events:

January 26, 2025 – Chili Dinner after the Congregational Meeting. Please feel free to bring a dessert.

March 4, 2025 - SHROVE TUESDAY –
5-6:30 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



Windows for the **Educational Building**

The council has approved a bid of \$57,185.00 to replace all of the outside windows in the Educational

Building & Fellowship Hall. If you would like to make a donation to this project, please label your offering “WINDOWS”. Any help is greatly appreciated!

Notice to all Committee Chairs – Annual Reports are due in the Church Office by Friday, January 3, 2025 for publication in the Annual Report of St. Paul.



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 26, 2025 - immediately following the Worship Service.

2025 offering envelopes are available for pick up in the Educational Building. You can also call the office (564-2135) and make arrangements to receive them.

Offering Envelopes



2025

Flower Chart

The Flower chart for 2024 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.

Congratulations to Tamara & Seth Mattox on the birth of their baby boy, Audie Collin, born December 7, 2024!



To the members of St. Paul –

Thanks to all for your cards, gifts and well wishes during this Christmas Season. Your warmth and generosity fills us with love as we celebrate the greatest gift of all: the gift of God coming into this world.

A Blessed New Year to each of you!

~The staff of St. Paul Lutheran Church

**A BIG
Thanks!**

Christian Life would like to give a sincere thank you to Gayle & Ashley Hoefling for providing the meat for the Polka Band meal.

Elizabeth Marie Gohmert
child of
Christopher & Hilary Gohmert
was baptized on
November 24, 2024.



There will be a parent meeting for all Sunday School students, elementary through high school, on Sunday, January 12, 2025 at 11:30 am, immediately following Sunday School.



YOUTH *Chat*

CONGRATULATIONS!!

On Perfect Attendance in Sunday

School for November!

Junior High

High School

Shelby Arguellez

Kellan Diehl

Kylie Diehl

Aydn Garcia

Piper Peyton

Paige Rippamonti

Ellyn Warwas

Bunco

Bunco

Bunco
COMING

1/26/25



2025

January 2025 FFF Menu

1/15/ - Hot dogs, chips, fruit & dessert

1/22 - Tater tot Casserole, green beans & dessert

1/29 - Pizza, salad & dessert

Polka Band Service & Meal









BUNCO





CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



















Thank you, St. Paul Lutheran Sunday school, for bringing the Good News to life. I would like to thank the following people for helping and celebrating with us as we told our story about Jesus' birth. To the Congregation, thank you for watching the Good News as it was told to people of all ages.

Merry Christmas, Zoe Innocenti

THANK YOU!

Pastor Tim & Mrs. Katie Serrano - for help, encouragement, and program bulletin creation

Mrs. Jill Turner and the Junior High & High School Students - for costuming, program practice help/production, and Service help

The FFF & Aydn García - for designing & creating the Hear The Good News Banner and camera prop construction

The Nursery, Elementary, Junior High, and Learning Garden Students - for putting in so much time practicing lines, singing, and sharing Jesus' birth with our congregation

Parents and Sunday School

Teachers - for encouraging and helping all of us

Mr. Larry & Mrs. Nancy Gohmert - for managing the sound and tech

Mr. Jesse & Mrs. Linda Hurta - for the manger scene set up and children's gifts

Miss Annie Hahn- for the beautiful prelude music

Mrs. Rebecca Innocenti, - for making music for all of us

Mrs. Jill Turner, Mrs. Laurey Garcia, Mr. Terry Carmichael, and Mrs. Miranda Rohan - for behind the scenes help with practice details, music, and Kellen Diehl photography

Mrs. Pam Hoefling and the Christian Life Committee - for organizing the Christmas Feast for our families



Christian Life would like to give a sincere thank you to Mary Resson, with Resson Nursery, for donating the Cyclamen for our beautiful table decorations for our Christmas feast.

Christmas Caroling









We keep in our prayers the family and friends of:

Elizabeth “Betsy” Schulze - who passed away December 9, 2024. Services were held December 13, 2024.

Verda Mae Foerster - who passed away December 15, 2024. Services were held December 19, 2024.

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



In memory of Robbie Boldt – Building

Barbara Kerlick

Randy & Shannon Franke

Bryan Hoefling & Family

Allen & Patty Kolodziejcyk

Barbara Cramer

Bonnie & Bill Ellis

Erwin H. Landgrebe

Christie Saunders

Velma Lee Moritz

Mark & Betsy Weischwill

In memory of Robbie Boldt – Ed. Building Windows

Jesse & Linda Hurta

In memory of Robbie Boldt – Landscaping

Charles & Jan Ruppert

In memory of Aubrey Breed – Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of Daniel Broderson – Landscaping

Charles & Jan Ruppert

In memory of Byron Cramer – Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of Verda Mae Foerster – Ed. Building Windows

Jesse & Linda Hurta

In memory of Verda Mae Foerster – Landscaping

Dorothy Mayfield

In memory of Verda Mae Foerster – Radio

Dr. & Mrs. John Frels

In memory of Norma Friesenhahn – Ed. Building Windows

Helen Breed

In memory of Junell Goehring – Ed. Building Windows

Helen Breed

In memory of Monica Gwosdz – Ed. Building Windows

Glen & Judy Henze

In memory of Kenneth Hoefling – Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of James Janssen – Ed. Building Windows

Jesse & Linda Hurta

In memory of James Janssen – Landscaping

Bill & Carolyn Bargmann Dorothy Mayfield

In memory of James Janssen - Senior Scholarship

Charles & Bonnie Riedesel

In memory of Bennie Kyrisch – Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of Chester Kyrisch – Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of Frieda Kyrisch – Ed. Building Windows

Helen Breed

In memory of Sammy Kyrisch – Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of Janie Metting – Landscaping

Dorothy Mayfield

In memory of Allen Ray & Lorene Pierce – Windows

Helen Breed

In memory of Will Sauermilch – Building

The Larry Serold Family Dennis Henze

In memory of Will Sauermilch – Ed. Building Windows

Glen & Judy Henze Luellen Smiley

In memory of Elizabeth “Betsy” Schulze – Building

Dennis Henze Carlton & Sandra Bolting

Kenneth & Nancy Hahn Ray & Amber Gloor

Jim & Joan Urban William & Ann Warwas

Barbara Kerlick

In memory of Elizabeth “Betsy” Schulze – Cemetery

Charles & Jan Ruppert

In memory of Elizabeth “Betsy” Schulze – Ed. Building Windows

Michael & Kim Blaschke Arlen & Kathie Fehner

Jesse & Linda Hurta

In memory of Elizabeth “Betsy” Schulze – FFF

Ricky & Judy Hilbrich

In memory of Elizabeth “Betsy” Schulze – Operating

Jay & Sandra Heil

In memory of Elizabeth “Betsy” Schulze – Radio

Dr. & Mrs. John Frels

In memory of Elizabeth “Betsy” Schulze – Senior Scholarship

Steven & Debbie Kneese Charles & Bonnie Riedesel

In memory of David Stehling – Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of LeRoy L. Strakos - Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of Lorene Strakos - Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of Larry Charles Vasbinder – Building

Barbara Kerlick

In memory of Larry Charles Vasbinder – Landscaping

Bill & Carolyn Bargmann

In memory of Larry Charles Vasbinder – Parking Lot

Lana Krietsch

In memory of Larry Charles Vasbinder - Senior Scholarship

Charles & Bonnie Riedesel

In memory of Curtis Weise - Senior Scholarship

Helen Breed

In memory of Edith Wisian – Landscaping

Charles & Jan Ruppert

~Gifts in memory and in honor of are as of December 16, 2024.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS
JANUARY 2025**

Sunday, January 5, 2025 – 2nd Sunday of Christmas

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm: Psalm 147:13-21

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:3-14

Gospel: John 1:[1-9] 10-18



Sunday, January 12, 2025 – Baptism of Our Lord

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm: Psalm 29

Second Lesson: Acts 8:14-17

Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22



Sunday, January 19, 2025 – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson: Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm: Psalm 36:5-10

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11



Sunday, January 26, 2025 – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm: Psalm 19

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21



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

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