



St. Paul Lutheran Church
1417 11th Street, P.O. Box 126
Wichita Falls, TX 76307



St. Paul Epistle

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another fulfills the Law." Romans 8:13

St. Paul Lutheran Church is a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

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Issue 12

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Pastor's Meditation

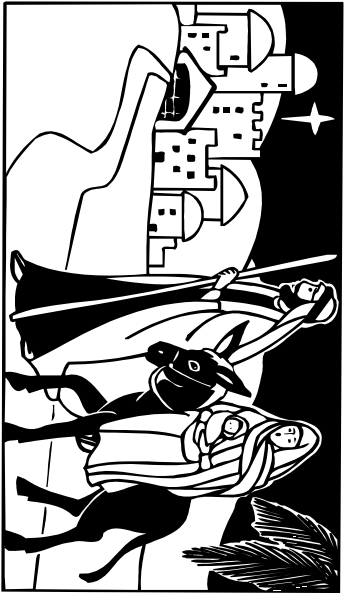
Dear St. Paul Family,
"And he shall be their peace" (Micah 5:5).
 Peace. Many speak of peace at Christmas. Many dream of idyllic times and a serene existence. Love and compassion, hope and joy fill our mouths and flow from over our lips during this time of gift giving and family visiting. Conflict and hatred seem out of place during Christmas. Singing together fits the occasion. Yet the season waxes and wanes and the reality of a less-than-ideal life presents itself to us. We make resolutions in the new year to conform our lives in some small way to the hope and love of Christmas. We look forward to Christmas and then mourn its passing because this season provides a change from our daily stress. The dream of a better life gives us strength to face our perpetual battle with imperfection and the fear of death.
 Micah, who wrote the verse I quoted above, wrote about 700 years before Jesus was born. At the time, God's people were facing invasion by a foreign army. And God reminded His people that they had sinned and turned away from His will and His love, that they had neglected to worship Him alone and love their

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Our special services will include:

December 1, 8, 15, & 22, 12:00/7:00 p.m.
Midweek Advent Services

December 24, 7:00 PM & 11 PM
Christmas Eve Candlemass



Pastor's Meditation Cont.,

neighbor. The strife they faced was not only the result of foreign invasion, but also the result of their own sin.

Today, we face struggles from the evil and hatred around us. We also face the reality of our own sin (when we act against God's will) and its consequences, including death. We ruin relationships; we fail to love others as we ought; and we often leave people hurt from their interactions with us. These tragedies result from our own imperfect lives and remind us that we are broken. Our world presses in on us and causes us anxiety and fear. Micah's ancient promise is the same for you today. Peace is found in the one sent by God to be the Savior. His name is Jesus, and He is God's own Son in human flesh. His death and resurrection paid for all sin and earned eternal life for all who believe in Him. Jesus forgives the sins of all who believe in Him. Jesus' love gives peace to all who trust in Him. Christmas is the time of peace and joy, of singing and laughing all because of Jesus. This is the Good News of the Gospel and the true meaning of Christmas.

I invite you to get back in church as we start the new Church Year with Advent and Christmas to hear the truth about God and His Son Jesus Christ. You will also hear the truth about humanity and this world in which we live. You will hear the truth of God's Word, and when you hear and believe in Jesus, you will have peace. *(Written by Rev. Matthew C. Harrison)*

In Christ's love, ✝

Pastor Cody
Psalm 84:10



The Children's Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 19, at 6:00 PM. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall.





**TIME TO ORDER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS
TO DECORATE THE ALTAR & CHANCEL
AREA ON CHRISTMAS EVE**

Orders must be received with payment
by Wednesday, December 22nd.

Please provide the following information, attach your check for the correct total amount, and place it in an offering plate or send it to the church office.

Quantity desired: _____ X \$11.00 = \$ _____ total amount.

Your

Name _____ *In*

Memory Commemoration Honor

of

You may take your poinsettias you ordered after the Children's Christmas Eve Service and Candlelight Service.

I want my Poinsettia (s) I do not want my Poinsettia (s).

Thank you to everyone who provides poinsettias for the Christmas Season.



Join us for Christmas Eve Candlemas
Friday, December 24 at 7:00 & 11:00 pm.

Both services will have the Lord's Supper and candles will be used by the congregation attendees that evening. Come and worship the King!

Check out our website!
www.stpaulwftx.org





**Advent Midweek Series—
When Heaven Met Earth: Advent Answers to
Hard Questions Hardly Anybody Is Asking**

1. Advent Midweek 1-Dec. 1: The Birth of God: How . . . and Why? Luke 1:26–38
2. Advent Midweek 2– Dec. 8: The Obedient Child: Did He Know? Luke 2:41–52
3. Advent Midweek 3– Dec. 15: The Man’s Man: Why Would Jesus Ever Cry? Luke 19:41–44; John 11:30–36
4. Advent Midweek 4– Dec. 22: TBD



Interfaith Outreach Services Pantry
needs for December:

Soup
Spaghetti Sauce
Boxed Potatoes

Thank you to everyone who
helped decorate the church
for the Christmas season!

Thank You

We wish to thank those who served last month:

Organist: Darla English, Leo Tulagan

Elders: Kenneth Schkade, William Parker, Kevin Copeland

Sound man/PowerPoint: Eugene Kruger

Altar Guild: Jana Buckmaster, Janice Wiechman (setup) Vicki Holland, Lisa Schur (take-down) (And all members!)

Greeters: Ruth Rathgeber, Hank & Judy Hancock, and all greeters

Ushers: Randal Schoppa, Eugene Kruger, ...and all who volunteer on Sundays

All Church Council members

All Board and Committee members

Parish Worker: Lisa Schur

Treasurer: Nina Keethler

Church Sexton: Randall Schoppa

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St. Paul Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Rick Cody..... Pastor

Cell Phone: 832-745-3314 †

Email: revcody11@gmail.com

Darla English, Leo Tulagan.....Organist

Lisa Schur Parish Office Worker

Memorials & Tributes



In Memory of Virginia Hendricks to the Altar Guild:
Vicki Holland
Deanna Schroeder

In Memory of Virginia Hendricks to the Elevator Fund by Ruth Rathgeber.

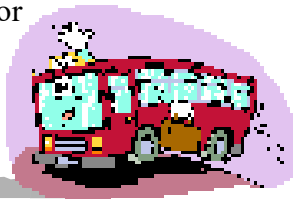
In Memory of Virginia Hendricks to the North Campus by Ben & Darla English.



Christmas Caroling
December 12, 2021
Time: TBD

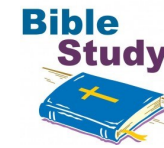
We will be caroling at Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital. The time for this event will be announced at a later time.

If you or someone you know needs a ride to Divine Service or any other church activity, please call the church office at (940) 322-6112 and we will see what we can do to arrange that for you.



Religious Education

The Adult Bible Class meets every Sunday morning before Divine Service. Our goal is to have 40 people in Adult Bible Study. We want to come together and study God's Word, and reap the benefits that God promises to those who remain in His Word (John 8:31-32). We continue to study 100 Bible Stories. I think that you will find this class interesting and thought-provoking. Please plan on joining us each Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



Monday Night Bible Study and Continuous Adult Catechism have been canceled until after the Advent & Christmas Seasons.

Sunday school for all ages starts at 9:00AM each Sunday morning. The Scriptures are clear, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Prov. 22:6). Bring the kids out and stay for Adult Bible study yourselves and teach them the proper habit to be in as the spiritual leaders of your homes! See y'all there!

Middle School Youth Catechism Class

We have three young people gathering together each week to demonstrate to their parents, and their Lord, the importance of this journey in their faith walk. Catechesis is the teaching of our Lord that is drawn from the Holy Scriptures, confessed in the Small Catechism, and expressed in Divine Service. Please pray for them as they study the Word of God and complete this important stage in their lives. The class is open to any and all from the 5th grade through the 8th grade. We meet on Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m.

If your child needs a ride to Catechism instruction, we will be happy to provide that service to you. Please contact the church office and let us know. William Parker, Janice Wiechman and/or I will be picking the kids up and taking them home, if needed. Thank you!



Mark your Calendars!

Sunday, December 5, 2021

There will be a silent and live auction following church. Pizza will be served before the auction begins. The items for auction will be set up along with bid sheets prior to the event. The money raised will go towards the "Give it Away" campaign.

On Sunday, December 5, we will also have a new member luncheon. If you have joined St. Paul within the last year and have not attended a new member luncheon, we would like you to come and be recognized. We would also like to get a photo after Church.



Congratulations and God's blessings to Amber and Brian Clayton on the birth of Jesse Parker Clayton on Monday, November 29. Little Jesse is the grandchild of Ben and Darla English, and the great grandchild of Jesse Flick.

God's People at Work during December

Elders

William Parker
Kenneth Schkade
Kevin Copeland

Ushers

Randal Schoppa
Eugene Krueger
Hank Hancock

Sexton

Randal Schoppa

Altar Duty

Set Up: Janna
Buckmaster, Janice
Wiechman
Take Down: Michelle
Cody, Leanne Roten

Greeters

Dec. 5– Kevin Copeland, Ruth
Rathgeber
Dec. 12– Del Tech, Penny Becker
Dec. 19– Leanne Roten, Michelle
Cody
Dec. 26– Delores Palmatary, Ruth
Rathgeber

Readers

Dec. 5– Kenneth Schkade
Dec. 12– Kevin Copeland
Dec. 19– Eugene Krueger
Dec. 24– Russell Heineken
Dec. 26– Kenneth Theimer

Days to Celebrate in December

Birthdays

9- Lisa Schur
8- Brittany Bernhardt
13- Clara Townes
14- Clyde Austin, Doreen Hendricks
16- Mariah Bernhardt
21- Landry Heineken
23- Kenneth L. Theimer
25- Dennis Hendricks
29- Penny Becker
31- Cameron Cody



Wedding Anniversaries

Dec. 3- Dennis & Nina Keethler
Dec. 3- James & Mary Ann Martinez
Dec. 8- Richard & Sue Yost
Dec. 11- Lynn & Donna Sharp
Dec. 20- Kirk & Leah Horton
Dec. 29- Tony & Joyce Gilleland
Dec. 29- Ben & Darla English



Please Pray

Please continue to pray on a daily basis for:

- ✦ Pastor, Michelle Cody
- ✦ Kathy & Kenneth Schkade
- ✦ Darla English, Leo Tulagan
- ✦ Lisa Schur, Parish Office Worker
- ✦ The leadership of our church, all boards and committee members.
- ✦ The mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church.
- ✦ All those sick or suffering in our church family.
- ✦ Church unity.
- ✦ Our nation and governmental leaders.

Prayers of God's People

FOR - THOSE WITH CANCER:

Jeanette Evans, Janie Khlum, Dennis Keethler, Lee Shores, Kay Castleberry, Chad Brown, Staci Myles, Sally Handrick, Mike Groover, James Sheppard, Cash Cochran, Kent Streit, Rachel King.



PHYSICAL AND OTHER CONCERNS:

Betty Corder, Brantley French, Duncan Hibbard, Ronnie Newman, Kellen Osborne, David Baker, Virginia Martinez, Dean Miller, Jesse Flick, Katey Lewis, Pastor Thomas Handrick, Jordan & Dustin Randall, Ben English, Jennifer Olsen, Townes Family, Drew Susac, Shelby & Sawyer Susac, and Jordan Susac.

HOMEBOUND/SHUT-IN MEMBERS: Dorothy Kutzler (Royal Estates), Lois Kramer (Rolling Meadows), and Jesse Flick.

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL: Whitney Colligan (Air Force), Eli Buckmaster (Marine Corps), Brian Clayton (Army), Kate Ridinger Dozier (Navy), Jaydon Martinez (Navy), Trent Meisel (USAF), Zachary Wied (National Guard), Richard Townes (Army), Tim Rosenthal (Air Force), Christopher Harmon (Air Force), and Jacob Naughton (Air Force).



LWML
Lutheran Women in Mission

The **LWML Ladies Group** will meet on **Tuesday, December 14**, at 1 pm. They will be having snacks and drinks. They will also be assembling the goodie bags for the children participating in the children's Christmas program. All ladies interested are very welcome to join us!



We have a devotion and discuss our current project for the Texas District LWML.

Our **Women's Bible Study** will meet on December 9 at 9:30 am. They invite all women interested to come for some thought-provoking Bible study and great fellowship!

The current needs for Faith Mission:

- Men's underwear/boxers (L/XL)
- Tennis Shoes (9-12)
- Blankets
- Disposable Razors
- Deodorant
- Toilet Paper
- Kleenex
- Copy Paper



We will be delivering the gifts of money to the families on December 18. We will meet at the church.



The Give-it-away campaign is kicking off for Christmas 2021, where our church family blesses other families with a Christmas donation. You can donate directly to the project marking your envelope or check memo to "Give it Away". To supplement these funds we will be having a silent and live auction. Final bidding both silent and live, will be held **Sunday, Dec 5**, after church. Snacks will be provided. Silent auction items will be marked with bid sheets, but live auction items can only be bid upon Dec 5! If you have a special talent or craft to share for this, please consider donating an item. Baked goods can only be brought on Dec 5 so that they will be fresh and should be labeled as to what they are. Please join us! Questions? Call the church office.