

Online Giving:



St. Paul Lutheran Church News & Views

Website:



December 2024

Readers for Dec:

- Dec 1st - George Matthys
- Dec 8th - Steve Morgan
- Dec 15th - Kathy Paulsen
- Dec 22nd - Sharon Naivar
- Dec 24th - Sharon Naivar
- Dec 29th - Randall Pick

Missions
Of The
Month



Church Financial Summary

	November	Annual/Cumulative
Monthly Budget	\$23,778	\$261,558
Monthly Contributions	\$19,476	\$255,572

Monthly Contributions does not include funds received for dedicated purposes, only those funds received for budgeted operations.



The Christmas Eve Hymn Sing will be 5:45pm - 6:00pm immediately preceding our Christmas Eve Program and Communion in the Sanctuary

LAMP Advent Devotions



Advent devotion online at www.lampministry.org or subscribe to receive them daily at

lampministryadvent.wordpress.com

Christmas Potluck



CHRISTMAS POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON HONORING NEW MEMBERS

Our Christmas Potluck Luncheon will be November 8th in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service. (Sunday School Christmas Program). Ham and drinks will be provided. Members bringing a side dish and/or dessert to share can leave them in the Fellowship Hall prior to the Worship service and immediately before the meal.

New members who joined, were baptized, or confirmed in 2024 will be our honored guests.

COME ONE - COME ALL!

St. Paul Lutheran Child Development Center



CDC December Newsletter

Want to start out by telling the congregation and all that helped with the CDC Garage Sale **“THANK YOU”**.

We truly could not do it without your help. We had a good turnout.

Every year as we start to prepare for the Christmas season we look for ways to “help” out others. If there is anyone in the congregation that would like to participate with us in the endeavors, we would appreciate your help.

Four CDC families: We have four families in the CDC that we feel will need a little help in order for their Christmas’ to merry and bright. Please see Rita Kelm if you would like to help us with their Christmas.

The SPJST Nursing Home is need of items for their Country Store. The Country Store is filled with small items such as individual bottles (travel size or what you can get at a hotel) of shampoo, conditioner, lotion, hand sanitizer, etc. Hair combs, brushes, jewelry (costume, of course), cup holders that can be attached to walkers, Kleenex, knick knacks and honestly, anything that you think an elder person might like. These items go into the Country Store and the residents can use their “coupons” that they win to “purchase” the items.

The Skyline Laundry is in need of **dryer sheets**. Every Tuesday is dedicated to washing and drying clothing for the homeless or people in need.

The CDC children would like to share our Christmas party with the congregation.

When: Friday, Dec. 20th @ 2:00 p.m.

Where: The St Paul Church Fellowship Hall

Come one, come all

Joan and her Small Wonders Puppet Theater will be here to entertain us with their Christmas Puppet Show.

We will be serving light snacks and drinks following the performance.

The CDC will be closed December 23 & 24 to allow our teachers time to Be with their families for Christmas.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND MAY GOD BLESS EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU.
THE CDC**



St. Paul Lutheran Church

401 W. 7th Street, Taylor, TX 76574
 (512) 352-2327 Fax: (512) 365-1509
 Website: www.stpaultaylor.com
 Email: office@stpaultaylor.com
 FaceBook: [socialmedia.com/stpaultaylor](https://www.facebook.com/socialmedia.com/stpaultaylor)
 Instagram: [stpaullutherantaylor](https://www.instagram.com/stpaullutherantaylor)
 Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D.,
 Pastor
 (812) 259-2530
 Email: pastor@stpaultaylor.com

Congregational Leaders

CDC Board

Marilyn Artieschoufsky
 (512)923-0880 · martieschoufsky@msn.com
Tracy Richter
 (512)913-5042 · trichter68@gmail.com
Duane Stoll
 (512) 771-5467 · stoll.duane@gmail.com
Wilbert Vorwerk
 (512) 965-1411 · texasaggie61@gmail.com
Marilyn Grimm
 (512)365-5884 · bob.grimm@att.net
Kelly Fuessel
 (512)294-7784 · kfuessel@hotmail.com

Church Statistics for November

Sunday Worship
 Average Attendance
 65

St. Paul Congregational Leaders

Steve Morgan, Council President
 (512) 925-3875 • manuforte61@hotmail.com
Terry Richter, Council Vice President
 (817) 507-7467 • richtertn@gmail.com
OPEN, Secretary •
Kathy Paulsen, Treasurer & Stewardship
 (512) 595-1303 • kathrynp66@gmail.com
Rhonda Ochoa, Parish Education
 (512) 217-1890 • rhondaochoa@live.com
Loren Dittmeyer, Property
 (512) 217-1961 • lorendittmeyer@yahoo.com
Don Artieschoufsky, Community Service
 (512) 923-0220 • donartie@msn.com
Debbie Matthys, Worship
 (512)771-3914• dkmatthys@gmail.com
Carmen McCleery, Fellowship
 (505) 250-7260 • crmn.mccleery@gmail.com
Covered by Pastor & Elaine, Senior Ministry
OPEN - Outreach•
Steven & Elizabeth Morgan, Youth Leaders
 (512) 925-3875 • manuforte61@hotmail.com
Ray & Rhonda Ochoa,
Sunday School Superintendents
 (512) 217-1890 • rhondaochoa@live.com
Jason Richter, Office Manager
 (512) 352-2327 • office@stpaultaylor.com

DEADLINE

Please remember that the
 deadline for the monthly
 newsletter is the 20th of
 each month by 5:00 pm.



**St. Paul Church takes pictures
 and videos which will be posted
 on our social media, web pages
 and printed material.**

Dear St. Paul Lutheran Church Family,

My thanks to all of you for supporting our 2025 budget. Due to increases in insurance, utilities, Medicare premiums and general inflation we had to increase our budget to simply do what we are called to do as followers of Jesus. Jason Richter, our church administrator, keeps us financially on track and consistently looks for savings.

With the increase of need at Shepherd's Heart, (in 2022 there was an average of 1200 families served per month, in August 2024 this number had risen to 2066), we have committed an additional \$6000.00 to assist in repairs for their truck (estimated \$4200.00), and to assist with paying the \$25,000.00 loan (at simple interest) to replace their worn-out refrigerator with a new ThermoKing unit. Naturally, both breakdowns occurred just as Shepherd's Heart was preparing for their Thanksgiving food distribution. Our support of Shepherd's Heart provides food for families whose budgets are severely stretched by housing, utility, and medical expenses.

I look forward to all our Advent and Christmas activities. **Our Sunday School is preparing a wonderful Christmas program with several special guests on December 8. A Potluck Christmas Brunch will follow worship.** My thanks to Rita, Carmen and all our ladies who make our brunches such delicious experiences. **Our Christmas Eve Worship Service with Holy Communion on December 24, kicks off with our annual Carol Sing at 5:45 PM and our Festival Worship beginning at 6:00 PM. On December 29, we will hold our traditional Lessons and Carols Worship Service at 10:00 AM.** There will be no brunch on that Sunday. Please invite your friends and family to join us for these music filled worship services. My thanks to all the musicians, ushers, Sunday School students, parish leaders, and parishioners who work to make our Christmas services such joyous presentations.

During the weeks of Advent and Christmas, we have much for which to be thankful and extra opportunities for prayer. Please continue to remember all our members and friends who are sick and shut in. I know they will appreciate a friendly phone call during this holiday season. In your devotions, please remember our Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ national and Texas District staff, missionaries, Lutheran Bible Translators, and most of all our nation as we move through a time of transition. December 3 is Giving Tuesday and we all have an opportunity to give support for Taylor non-profits and the LCMC Texas District. All of these giving opportunities have matching funds offered to increase your gifts. Check out: [giving tuesday - Texas District](https://www.lcmctexas.org/giving-tuesday/) (<https://www.lcmctexas.org/giving-tuesday/>) and [CENTRAL TEXAS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INC - TAYLOR GIVES](https://ctxcf.networkforgood.com/projects/234798-taylor-gives) (<https://ctxcf.networkforgood.com/projects/234798-taylor-gives>) on December 3rd.

As we move into the new year, Bo Stiles will again be leading us in the Crossways Bible Studies beginning on January 12 in the Fellowship Hall Conference Room at 11:15 AM.

As I visit our shut-ins with Holy Communion, they all ask me to share their greetings with you and their appreciation for your prayers. As I work with the other pastors in our community, we rejoice together for our shared witness for the Lord Jesus. Our monthly community pastor meetings have bound us together to serve Taylor in new ways.

Elaine, Jason and I wish all of you safe travels, and a joyous Christmas and New Year celebration with your friends and families. As always, it is my joy to serve you as your Pastor.
Blessings,

Pastor George



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



Cheering on a Comeback

Like most sports fans, I love a good comeback! There's nothing quite like when a team mounts a comeback after falling hopelessly behind. It is thrilling to experience how the players, coaches, and fans rally to support one another and celebrate each step along the way just to get back into a position to potentially be victorious!

Recently, my wife and I came back: After a six-month absence from the church we attend when in town, we were finally able to come back to worship on a Sunday morning this month. Life and ministry commitments had us on the road since Easter and we truly missed the church that had become family to us. But the comeback we experienced was not personally thrilling for me. Instead, I sheepishly walked through those doors, wondering what people were thinking of us after all this time. I even found myself saying "the prodigals have returned" to one of my friends.

As I began to process it, my experience really bothered me. Why did I feel this way? No one was judgmental at all. Not one person asked, "where have you been?" Many greeted us with joyous expressions of welcome. So why did I, a minister of the Gospel who should definitely know better, feel such guilt and shame? And if I had this intense struggle, for how many others might similar feelings be an obstacle to coming back to church?

As we approach Advent and Christmas, we are more likely to encounter people who may not be in the pattern of attending church regularly. Many may be struggling with intense feelings of guilt and shame even thinking about returning to worship. Some of these feelings may get projected onto other church members, like my thinking we would be judged or looked down on. Other feelings might be more of an internal spiritual battle. Regardless, it is mission-critical for the church to cheer on the comeback.

If you haven't been active in church lately, I want my experience to be an encouragement for you. While the devil will use every trick he can to keep you away from the life-giving experience of a faith community gathered around word and sacrament, trust that God desires your presence and participation. I am confident that you will encounter a loving, welcoming reception by your church family who will celebrate your presence.

If you are a regular worshipper, please enthusiastically support and encourage any and all comebacks! Begin to pray daily for the Holy Spirit to gather those whom the Lord calls to come back to worship. Pray for God to bring to mind specific people to pray for and encourage. Perhaps God is leading you to reach out to someone. Be mindful to not inadvertently contribute to any feelings of guilt or shame. Instead, take an interest in them out of genuine love. Offer to meet for coffee or lunch. Find out what's going on in their lives and how you can pray for them. Consider inviting them to a special event, small group, or service project that gives the opportunity for casual, relational connection. And most importantly, when you see someone new or that you haven't seen for some time, warmly welcome them and simply let them know you are so happy to see them. These simple actions can make a difference as we cheer on a comeback!

Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org.

December 2024

St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMC†

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	10:00am Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary 11:00am Sunday School and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM	2	8:00am Church Office - Open 9:30am LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg	4	5	6	7
				8:00am Church Office - Open 9:30am Folding Bulletins 1:30pm Prayer Time 2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	8:00am Church Office - Open	Church Office Closed	Pastor's Day Off
8	9:00am Handbell Choir Practice - Sanctuary 10:00am Worship - Sanctuary (Children's Christmas Program) 11:00am Brunch (Pot Luck), Sunday School and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM	9	10	11	12	13	14
		8:00am Church Office - Closed Today	8:00am Church Office - Closed Today 7:00pm Scout Committee Mtg - FH Conf Rm	8:00am Church Office - Closed Today 9:30am Folding Bulletins 1:30pm Prayer Time 2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	8:00am Church Office - Closed Today	Church Office Closed	Pastor's Day Off 9:00am Fellowship Hall Rental - Rohlack
15	10:00am Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary 11:00am Brunch, Sunday School and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM	16	17	18	19	20	21
		8:00am Church Office - Closed Today Poinsettia Orders Due today	8:00am Church Office - Open 9:30am LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg 6:30pm Council Meeting - St. Paul House	8:00am Church Office - Open 9:30am Folding Bulletins 1:30pm Prayer Time 2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study	8:00am Church Office - Open	Church Office Closed Newsletter Articles Due	Pastor's Day Off
22	9:00am Handbell Choir Practice - Sanctuary 10:00am Worship - Sanctuary 11:00am Sunday School and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM	23	24	25	26	27	28
		8:00am Church Office - Open	8:00am Church Office - Open 5:45pm Christmas Eve Hymn Sing - Sanctuary 6:00pm Christmas Eve Program and Communion - Sanctuary	8:00am Church Office - Closed	8:00am Church Office - Closed 9:30am Folding Bulletins	Church Office Closed	Pastor's Day Off
29	10:00am Worship - Sanctuary 11:00am Sunday School and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM	30	31	1	2	3	4
		8:00am Church Office - Open	8:00am Church Office - Closed	8:00am Church Office - Closed	8:00am Church Office - Open 9:30am Folding Bulletins	Church Office Closed	Pastor's Day Off

We Remember in Prayer

If someone needs to be removed from the prayer list please call the church office

Our Members:

Debbie Brinkmeyer, Billie Turner, Inez Sladek, Elaine Oser, Brunner Grau, John Harper, Kent Safarik, Pr. Michael Domenech.

Our Shut Ins:

Terri Abert, Dorothy Grimm, Grace Bulgerin, Lydia Dowling, Mary Miller, Lorene Prinz, Geraldine Steger, Lomis Weber, Carol Lantzsch, Lisa Cox, Geraldine Cox, Carolyn Jacobson, Ella Kuhl.

Our family, friends, and loved ones:

Mackenzie Brewer, Loretta Simank, Authur Moreno, Jack Dismukes, Calvin and Rosalie Jechow, Edward Morgan, Sandra Milner, Dora Brittan, Ryan Richey, Randell Duelm, Alma Russell, Rachel Maloy, Tori Harris and baby, Andrea Carrizales, Mary Perez, Iris Rangel and family, Melissa Balderas, Kelly Clines Thompson, Rob Randig, Gayla Lantzsch, Tommy Harrison, Rhonda Aikey, Walter Moldenhauer, Sandra Milburn.

Assisted Living/Nursing Home:

SPJST Assisted Living:

Geraldine Cox
Grace Bulgerin
Carol Lantzsch

Taylor SPJST Nursing Home:

Geraldine Steger
Mary Miller

The Monarch:

Dorothy Grimm

Falcon Ridge Rehabilitation

Lydia Dowling

Will-O-Bell (Barlett):

Ella Kuhl

Brookdale Assisted Living:

Carolyn Jacobson

Trinity Care Center (Round Rock):

Lorene Prinz

80th Birthdays & Above

Lydia Dowling	12/8/26	98 Yrs
Dorothy Grimm	12/4/28	96 Yrs
Mary Miller	12/28/36	88 Yrs
Wilbert Vorwerk	12/16/38	86 Yrs

DECEMBER



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

25th Anniversary:
None

30th Anniversary :
None

40th Anniversary:
None

50th Anniversaries & Above

Gary & Bebe Beran	12/4	58 Yrs
Kenneth & Bonnie George	12/17	58 Yrs

Daily Bible Reading Guide December

- 1 - Psalm 134-136
- 2 - Isiah 59
- 3 - Isiah 60
- 4 - Isiah 61
- 5 - Isiah 62
- 6 - Isiah 63
- 7 - Isiah 64
- 8 - Psalm 137-139
- 9 - Isiah 65
- 10 - Isiah 66
- 11 - Nehemiah 1

- 12 - Nehemiah 2
- 13 - Nehemiah 3
- 14 - Nehemiah 4
- 15 - Psalm 140-142
- 16 - Nehemiah 5
- 17 - Nehemiah 6
- 18 - Nehemiah 7
- 19 - Nehemiah 8
- 20 - Nehemiah 9

- 21 - Nehemiah 10
- 22 - Psalm 143-145
- 23 - Nehemiah 11
- 24 - Nehemiah 12
- 25 - Nehemiah 13
- 26 - Esther 1-2
- 27 - Esther 3-4
- 28 - Esther 5-6
- 29 - Psalm 146-148
- 30 - Esther 7-10
- 31 - Psalm 149-150

News & Views

St. Paul Lutheran Church

401 W. 7th Street
Taylor, TX 76574

Greetings from Gloria Bartosh
and Bobby Pasemann.



Food and Finance

St. Paul contribution to Shepherd's Heart from
the food drive held on November 3rd,
two financial contributions were presented:
\$1,820 and \$6,000 to assist their mission.



I would like give _____ (number) Christmas
Poinsettia plant(s) to decorate the church for the
Christmas Worship Service. The plants are \$12.00
each, and order form must be received by:

Monday, December 16.

Please include payment
with this order.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

My Christmas Poinsettia is given in memory of: _____

AND/OR

My Christmas Poinsettia is given in honor of: _____

AND/OR

My Christmas Poinsettia is given in thankfulness to God.
(Only the person(s) name who is giving the plant will be listed.)

Number of poinsettias ordered: _____

X \$12.00

Total Enclosed _____

You may put this form in the offering plate, give to an usher,

leave it at the church office or mail to: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 401 W 7th St. Taylor TX 76574