

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

## News & Views



February 2024

### Readers for February:

- Feb 4th - Paula Safarik
- Feb 11th - Debbie Matthys
- Feb 14th - George Matthys
- Feb 18th - George Matthys
- Feb 25th - Steve Morgan

## Scout Troop 167

Mission  
Of The  
Month



### Church Financial Summary

|                       | January  | Annual/Cumulative |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Monthly Budget        | \$23,778 | \$23,778          |
| Monthly Contributions | \$44,175 | \$44,175          |

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

**Congregational meeting will be held on February 25th immediately following church service**

### Donations in Actions

#### From Heifer International

“Thank you for your faithful support of our mission. I hope you know how much we, and the families who are touched by your generosity, appreciate you. Our work would not be possible without you by our side.”

#### From Lutheran World Relief

“Dear Partner in Ministry, On behalf of the countless neighbors whose lives were transformed by your congregation’s compassion in 2023, THANK YOU. You alleviated suffering for families in crisis. You empowered sustainable change for a better tomorrow. You surrounded and comforted those in distress with the warmth and love of your quilts and kits. Thank you for trusting us as your mission partner. We at Lutheran World Relief — and your neighbors around the world — are so very grateful. I look forward to working with you more in 2024!”

# St. Paul Lutheran Child Development Center *February*



## *St Paul CDC February Newsletter*

The schedule is full of “heart shaped” crafts to be completed before February 14<sup>th</sup>. It is blooming heart shaped artwork everywhere. Good time to talk about how much our Father in Heaven loves us and how we should love others.

Class parties will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. for the younger children and then 3:30 in the afternoon for the school age children.

Reminder: CDC Garage Sale will be in the Fellowship Hall on March 1 - 2, 2024.

Let us remember - Love one another as He has loved us.  
God bless all,

St. Paul CDC

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

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

## Congregational Leaders

### CDC Board

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

## Church Statistics for January

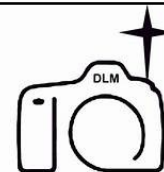
Sunday Worship  
 Average Attendance  
 62

**DEADLINE**

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

## St. Paul Congregational Leaders

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



**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,

February looks like a busy month for all of us beginning with Ash Wednesday on Valentine's Day. We will have worship services in the Sanctuary at 12:00 noon and 6:30 PM giving us all an opportunity to take out our favorite Valentines and worship our Lord on the same day. Our mid-week Lenten series theme is *Guided to the Cross* which will be shared at 1:00 PM in the St. Paul House Conference Room and at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall, with Soup and Sandwich dinners at 6:00 PM. Signup sheets for Soup and Sandwiches will be available in the Narthex beginning in early February.

We have been invited by Laundry of Love to support their outreach to low-income individuals and families in the Taylor area. We already support this ministry by providing financial support for laundry service at Sky Line Laundry. We know there are many families struggling to make ends meet. By assisting them with the cost of their laundry expenses through monetary donations and providing laundry detergent, pods, and drier sheets, this allows them to stretch their funds. When you see laundry detergent, pods, and drier sheets on sale at our local grocery stores, please pick up an extra package and place it in the Shepherd's Heart donation box. As a Rotarian, I am part of the group which prepares 225 sacks of food for weekly distribution at Shepherd's Heart. I am reminded each week of the level of community need.

On February 26, I invite you to join Elaine and me at Sirloin Stockade in welcoming Pastor Siimon Haamer, President of the Tartu Academy of Theology in Estonia to Taylor. Siimon will share a presentation about the Lutheran Academy and their various outreach ministries to the Baltic area. Purchase your lunch buffet and join us for this presentation. St. Paul is presenting Pastor Siimon with a \$100.00 gift in support of their outreach ministries and care for Ukrainian refugees.

As we move through our days of cold weather, it is a great time to clean out closets and prepare for our CDC Garage Sale to be held on March 1 and 2. Rita and Patti are happy to receive your donations. If you need help in getting the donation to the church, call me at 812-259-2530 and I will arrange to pick it up. Volunteers are needed to sort and display items during the week of February 29 in Fellowship Hall.

Our Annual Congregational meeting will be held immediately following the February 25<sup>th</sup> Worship service. Annual Reports will be available for your review by February 11 in the Narthex.

I was greatly honored to be chosen as the Rotary Citizen of the Year at the recent Chamber of Commerce Banquet. This award was not only for me, but for each of you as we support the community ministries of St. Paul. Together you and I are making a positive impact on our City of Taylor through the glorious message of the Christ's love and forgiveness.

Blessings,

*Pastor George*



# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth



## How to Grow Your Church

In my role as Director of Mission Growth, a common question that church members and even some pastors ask me is "How do we grow our church?" I love this question because it tells me a few things about the person asking it. First, the very question itself communicates that the person asking recognizes that their church has a purpose to connect to more people and reveals a "holy discontent" with the present reality. Secondly, the question also informs me that the asker is genuinely interested and open to learning and implementing new ideas. Both having a heart to connect with more people and a teachable spirit are key components to ministry success and congregational revitalization.

The question also presents a bit of a challenge: Growing a bigger church should never be the mission of the church! Instead, church growth is a byproduct of a church engaging in and accomplishing its true mission and purpose. So, what is the true mission and purpose of the church? In my opinion, it can be summed up with "connecting people to Jesus." Exactly what this looks like in each congregation and community can and should be very different: no two congregations are alike; nor are the contexts in which those congregations minister.

I truly believe that churches who prioritize connecting people to a life-giving relationship with Jesus will indeed grow. Yet growth, in and of itself, should not be the actual goal. What would happen if we stopped obsessing over worship attendance or confirmation class size or Sunday School participation and started prioritizing and praying for those in our community whom God is calling us to befriend with the purpose and intent of gently and lovingly connecting them with Jesus? How can churches prioritize this activity as their mission, encouraging and equipping one another for everyday mission work?

In the book *7 Habits of Healthy Churches*, Marcus Carlson notes that "Healthy churches are focused more on those outside the church than those inside the church." I couldn't agree more with Carlson's assertion. To be clear, this does not mean that healthy churches do not care for one another within the church; healthy churches always love one another. What the author is pointing out is a reality I routinely observe: in the absence of a clear, outward-focused mission, congregations always default to pleasing their own members as their de facto purpose. Whenever a congregation focuses on member satisfaction, it becomes unhealthy and ultimately, inevitably declines.

God is calling the church to more. That more isn't simply to worry about stopping decline and growing our congregation. The more God is calling the church to is a mission that extends beyond our church walls and prioritizes connecting people to Jesus.

*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](http://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](mailto:bryce@lcmctexas.org).*

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February 2024

St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMC†

| Sunday |  | Monday |  | Tuesday |  | Wednesday |  | Thursday |  | Friday |   | Saturday |  |
|--------|--|--------|--|---------|--|-----------|--|----------|--|--------|---|----------|--|
| 28     | 9:00am Handbell Practice<br>10:00am Gideons International Presentation during service<br>10:00am Worship - Sanctuary<br>11:00am Brunch, Sunday School and Confirmation and Adult Education<br>12:15pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM   | 29     | 10:00am Funeral Services for Pastor Walter Miller - Sanctuary<br>6:00pm Scout Den Meeting K-3rd Fellowship Hall  | 30      | 1:30pm LCMC Pastors Text Study<br>6:30pm CDC Board Meeting - St Paul House                           | 31        | 9:30am Folding Bulletins<br>1:30pm Prayer Time<br>2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study  | 1        | 9:30am LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg<br>9:30am Ruth Circle | 2      | Office Closed on Fridays                                      | 3        | Pastor's Day Off   |
| 4      | 10:00am Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary<br>11:00am Brunch, Sunday School and Confirmation and Adult Education<br>12:15pm Bunch for Lunch<br>12:15pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM   | 5      | 6:00pm Scout Den Meeting K-3rd Fellowship Hall   | 6       | 1:30pm LCMC Pastors Text Study<br>6:30pm CDC Board Meeting - St Paul House                           | 7         | 9:30am Folding Bulletins<br>1:30pm Prayer Time<br>2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study  | 8        |  | 9      | Office Closed on Fridays                                      | 10       | Pastor's Day Off   |
| 11     | 9:00am Handbell Practice<br>10:00am Worship - Sanctuary<br>11:00am Brunch, Sunday School and Confirmation and Adult Education<br>12:15pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM<br>5:00pm Taylor 4H - Photography (Fellowship Hall)  | 12     | 6:00pm Scout Den Meeting K-3rd Fellowship Hall   | 13      | 1:30pm LCMC Pastors Text Study<br>7:00pm Scout Committee Mtg - FH Conf Rm                            | 14        | 9:30am Folding Bulletins<br>12:00pm Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary<br>1:30pm Prayer Time<br>2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study<br>6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary   | 15       | 9:30am LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg                       | 16     | Office Closed on Fridays                                      | 17       | Pastor's Day Off   |
| 18     | 10:00am Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary<br>11:00am Brunch, Sunday School and Confirmation and Adult Education<br>12:15pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM  | 19     | 6:00pm Scout Den Meeting K-3rd Fellowship Hall   | 20      | Newsletter Articles Due<br>1:30pm LCMC Pastors Text Study<br>7:00pm Council Meeting - St. Paul House | 21        | 9:30am Folding Bulletins<br>1:00pm Midweek Lent Service - St. Paul House Conference Room<br>1:30pm Prayer Time<br>2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study<br>6:30pm Midweek Lent Service - Fellowship Hall (soup/sandwiches @ 6pm)   | 22       |  | 23     | Office Closed on Fridays                                      | 24       | CDC garage sale set-up - Fellowship Hall<br>Pastor's Day Off |
| 25     | CDC garage sale set-up - Fellowship Hall<br>9:00am Handbell Practice<br>10:00am Worship - Sanctuary<br>11:00am Brunch, Sunday School and Confirmation and Adult Education<br>11:00am Congregational Meeting - Immediately after church service<br>12:15pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM | 26     | CDC garage sale set-up - Fellowship Hall<br>12:00pm Tartu Academy Presentation at Sifton Stockade - Open for all to Attend<br>6:00pm Scout Den Meeting K-3rd Fellowship Hall | 27      | CDC garage sale set-up - Fellowship Hall<br>1:30pm LCMC Pastors Text Study                           | 28        | CDC garage sale set-up - Fellowship Hall<br>9:30am Folding Bulletins<br>1:00pm Midweek Lent Service - St. Paul House Conference Room<br>1:30pm Prayer Time<br>2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study<br>6:30pm Midweek Lent Service - Fellowship Hall (soup/sandwiches @ 6pm) | 29       | CDC garage sale set-up - Fellowship Hall         | 1      | CDC Garage Sale - Fellowship Hall<br>Office Closed on Fridays | 2        | CDC Garage Sale - Fellowship Hall<br>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:**

Diane Talley, Inez Sladek, Kenneth George, Pr. Michael Domenech, Kent Safarik.

**Our Shut Ins:** Grace Bulgerin, Lydia Dowling, Mary Miller, Lorene Prinz, Geraldine Steger, Joanne Rummel, Lomis Weber, Carol Lantzsch, Lisa Cox, Dorothy Grimm, Geraldine Cox, Carolyn Jacobson, Ella Kuhl.

**Our family, friends, and loved ones:**

Rachel Maloy, Alexander Dockwiller, Andrea Carrizales, Christi Williams, Melissa Balderas, Andrea Ripple, Mary Perez, Iris Rangel and family, Wayne Ging, Kelly Clines Thompson, Angela Boehme, Rob Randig, Laurie Kirven, Gayla Lantzsch, Fred Bittner, Tommy Harrison, Rhonda Aikey, Walter Moldenhauer, Calvin Pierce, Tanuya Ellard, Sandra Milburn, Lonnie Lopez, Ben McCuk, Kelley Bachmayer, Terry Norman, Joe & Arlene Wold, Jennifer Thomson, Adam Eubank, James Slade, Julius Lucas, Betsi Schaefer, Jessica Hall, Brandi Oliver, Irene Bucanek, Donald Washington, Raul Bentley, Janie Luna, Alma Russell, Michael Vinson, Kristina Neitsch, Ali Vela, Johnell Griffin, Brayden Painter.

## Assisted Living/Nursing Home:

**SPJST Assisted Living:**

Geraldine Cox  
Grace Bulgerin  
Carol Lantzsch  
Lydia Dowling

**Taylor SPJST Nursing Home:**

Geraldine Steger  
Mary Miller

**Poet's Walk:**

Joanne Rummel

**Will-O-Bell (Barlett):**

Ella Kuhl

**Brookdale Assisted Living:**

Carolyn Jacobson

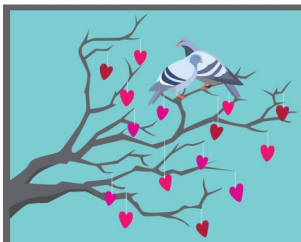
**Trinity Care Center (Round Rock):**

Lorene Prinz

### 80th Birthdays & Above

Carl Beran, Jr.    2/21/41    83 Yrs

## FEBRUARY



### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

25th Anniversary:  
None

30th Anniversary :  
None

40th Anniversary:  
None

50th Anniversaries & Above  
Donald & Ann Janke    2/5    59 Yrs

#### Daily Bible Reading Guide

### FEBRUARY

|                |               |                  |                  |                  |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 - MATTHEW 28 | 4 PSALM 12-14 | 11 - PSALM 15-17 | 18 - PSALM 18-20 | 25 - PSALM 21-23 |
| 2 - MARK 1     | 5 MARK 4      | 12 - MARK 11     | 19 - LUKE 1-2    | 26 - LUKE 13-14  |
| 3 - MARK 2-3   | 6 MARK 5      | 13 - MARK 12     | 20 - LUKE 3-4    | 27 - LUKE 15-16  |
|                | 7 MARK 6      | 14 - MARK 13     | 21 - LUKE 5-6    | 28 - LUKE 17-18  |
|                | 8 MARK 7      | 15 - MARK 14     | 22 - LUKE 7-8    | 29 - LUKE 19-20  |
|                | 9 MARK 8      | 16 - MARK 15     | 23 - LUKE 9-10   |                  |
|                | 10 MARK 9-10  | 17 - MARK 16     | 24 - LUKE 11-12  |                  |

# News & Views

## ***St. Paul Lutheran Church***

401 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Taylor, TX 76574



## *Congratulations*

To our very own Pastor George for being named the 2023 Rotary Outstanding Citizen of the Year!!!

As stated by the Chamber president, "This year is the year of the pastor".

