

Online Giving:



# St. Paul Lutheran Church News & Views

Website:



## January 2026

### Readers for Jan:

- Jan 4th - Debbie Matthys
- Jan 11th - George Matthys
- Jan 18th - Steve Morgan
- Jan 25th - Kathy Paulsen

Missions  
Of The  
Month

**Summer camp**

AND

**Taylor**

**Summer**

**Recreation**



### Church Financial Summary

	December	Annual/Cumulative
Monthly Budget	\$26,044	\$286,484
Monthly Contributions	\$26,348	\$297,925

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

As we usher in the new year, take time to reflect on all the blessings we experienced in 2025 and thank God for all he has done for us, the Taylor community, the great State of Texas and The United States of America.

We pray for continued blessings for each and everyone of you; you are all special to the St. Paul Lutheran Church family.

Thank you for your support during the 2025 calendar year, for your time, talents and contributions.



### Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting to discuss 2025 outcomes and review the 2025 Annual Report will be held on Sunday January 25th immediately following service.

Copies of the annual report will be made available in the Narthex during the weeks prior to the meeting.

# St. Paul Lutheran Child Development Center



## St Paul CDC January 2026 Newsletter

As we welcome the new year, we want to extend our thanks and gratitude for all that we were blessed with in 2025. Thank you to Pastor George and the wonderful members of St. Paul Lutheran Church. The monetary

gifts that were given to help make the Christmas' of several of our families was overwhelming. They received presents for all members of their family, food gift cards, snack baskets and lots of misc. items to make the holidays brighter. We were proud to tell them that due to the support that we receive from Pastor George, the congregation, St. Paul School Board, and St. Paul Council we were able to pass it along. We appreciate all that you do for our families and we are so proud of to be part of this church.

The CDC children collected food items for Shepherd's Heart and dryer sheets for Skyline Cleaners. Those items have all been delivered and received with much gratitude.

The CDC had our Christmas program on Tuesday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall and all families were invited to attend to visit with Santa and celebrate the Evening that Jesus was Born, a story that was read to them by the older CDC children. Families were asked to join in to sing several songs. A Taco bar light meal was served immediately after the program.



A few pictures of program night. Approx. 90 people attended. We were so happy with the turn out. All the school age children will return to school on the 7<sup>th</sup>. A special prayer for the teachers that will be trying to reach & teach these kids after a long break.

The CDC will be closed on January 19<sup>th</sup> in observation of Martin Luther King Day.

God bless you and prayers for a blessed New Year for 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  
FaceBook:socialmedia.com/stpaultaylor  
Instagram:stpaulutherantaylor  
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D.,  
Pastor  
(812) 259-2530  
Email: pastor@stpaultaylor.com

### 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  
**Katy Safarik, Secretary**  
(512)-461-6010 • ksafairk@austin.rr.com  
**Kathy Paulsen, Treasurer & Stewardship**  
(512) 595-1303 • kathryn66@gmail.com  
**Rhonda Ochoa, Parish Education**  
(512) 217-1890 • rhondaochoa@live.com  
**Loren Dittmeyer, Property**  
(512) 217-1961 • lorendittmeyer1021@gmail.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**  
**David Vorwerk, Outreach**  
(512) 468-1789 • Vorwerk@gmail.com  
**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

### 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 2025

Sunday Worship  
Average Attendance  
69



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,

Our Christmas Eve Worship Service was a joyous event with magnificent music and singing. My thanks to all who assisted with worship and Holy Communion especially the Church Council, our pianist, the audio and visual volunteers, our Altar Guild, and Sunday assistants. The Lessons and Carols Service provided both Biblical reflection and the songs of Christmas. Our Sunday School Christmas program received rave reviews from both parishioners in attendance for Sunday worship and those watching on Facebook. Many thanks to Rhonda Ochoa and her staff and all our young people for a wonderful presentation of "The Three Trees."

As we look forward to the coming year, we have **our Annual Congregational Meeting on January 25, immediately following worship.** We will discuss future congregational plans and celebrate the accomplishments of the past year. We rejoiced at the repair of the Fellowship Hall roof and Rita reported there were no leaks from the recent rain showers. Special thanks to Loren Dittmeyer and Daniel Jansky for all their work around the church. New signs have been installed, metalwork painted, and various other repairs have been made. Jason Richter continues to keep great oversight on our church finances and provides the Church Council with a variety of reports, as well as preparing the Sunday Bulletin and worship projections. I am blessed with a great team of parish workers.

**Thank you all for your continuing support of Shepherd's Heart.** The Community Food Drive was successful in both food and money, despite very cold weather. My thanks to Don Artieschoufsky who helped me with the food drive, while I assisted a homeless individual with food and shelter assistance. Loretta Masters sends her thanks for all our donations. My thanks to the Women of the Church for providing their annual Christmas gift bags for our shut-ins. Extra bags were made for me to give to the Taylor Police Department Victims Assistance program.

**Our Senior Outing is planned for January 12, weather permitting.** We will travel to Waco and take the Dr. Pepper Museum tour. The cost is \$12.00 per person which includes a free Dr. Pepper. Please meet at the St. Paul House Parking lot at 9:00 AM. We will have lunch at a Waco restaurant, returning home by 3:00 PM.

Come join me on January 19 for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration in downtown Taylor. I will be assisting with the program as I have in the past.

Our Youth Group attended the Living Nativity at Immanuel Lutheran Church and prepared Christmas cards for all our shut-ins as part of a Pizza Party on December 14. We are planning a remodel of the Powerhouse room at the St. Paul House, along with other activities during 2026.

My Pastor's Bible Study on the *Revelation to St. John* will restart on Wednesday, January 7 at 2:00 PM at the St. Paul House Conference Room.

Thank you all for your wonderful gifts and messages this Christmas. Please continue to remember in your daily devotions and prayers all our shut-ins. It continues to be my joy to serve as your Pastor.

Blessings, and Happy Year,

*Pastor George*



*Texas District*

# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth



**HARVEST**  
WORKERS

## Celebrate Jesus

Amid the twinkling lights and festive cheer, it's easy to forget why we celebrate Christmas. We can get caught up in the hustle and bustle of it all: parties and programs, gift buying and cookie baking, travel planning and family gatherings. All the activity of the season can crowd out the real meaning and purpose for the holiday itself. While we may say "Jesus is the reason for the season," what does that really mean for us today? What if an often overlooked Bible story can help us reconnect our celebrations to the true gift of Christmas?

One cold December Sunday when I was in the first grade, I got to read my very first verse with my own eyes out of a real Bible. I still remember it to this day. In Sunday School, we studied a part of the Christmas story that is rarely talked about. The lesson came from Luke 2 and was about Simeon meeting the baby Jesus in the temple. Simeon was a righteous and faithful man who had been waiting for God to send the Messiah to bring salvation to Israel and hope for the world. In fact, the Lord had promised Simeon that he would not die before seeing the Messiah.




We read aloud Luke 2:29-32: "Simeon took him up in his arms, praised God, and said, 'Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace, as you promised. For my eyes have seen your salvation. You have prepared it in the presence of all peoples—a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory to your people Israel.'" And just like that, my eyes were opened to see Jesus as the true gift of Christmas. Here Simeon sees and responds joyously and faithfully to God's grace in giving Jesus to the world. Can't you just picture the joy Simeon must have experienced as he lifted baby Jesus, praising God and delighting in his goodness and mercy?!?

Then as Luke 2 continues, we are introduced to Anna, an elderly widow who had dedicated her life to serving the Lord in the temple, to prayer and to fasting. She, too, met baby Jesus that day and began praising God and telling everyone that he was the Messiah, the long-awaited anointed one who had come into this world to bring salvation.

I love the story of Simeon and Anna as it reminds us what Christmas is really about. The world is in desperate need of Jesus, the Messiah. Like Simeon and Anna, we are invited to recognize and rejoice with a deeper appreciation for the gift that Jesus is to the whole world. We rejoice and celebrate this season full of hope and gratitude. Our faithful response in celebrating Jesus' birth should be like theirs: gleefully praising God and telling others what this means not only for us, but for everyone who calls on His name.

This Christmas, pause and ask: How can my celebrations better reflect the joy of meeting Jesus, the promised Messiah and savior of the world? May our response give glory, honor and thanks to God. And let us share the Good News with a lost and broken world desperately in need of all that Jesus came to give. **JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON.** So let's celebrate 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).*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28</p> <p> <b>Lessons and Carols</b></p> <p>10:00am Worship - Sanctuary 11:00am Sunday School and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open Committee Reports due for Annual Report</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 6:30pm Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Closed for Holiday 8:30am Folding Bulletins 1:30pm Prayer Time 2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Closed for Holiday </p>	<p>2</p> <p>Church Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>
<p>4</p> <p>10:00am Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary 11:00am Sunday School and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 10:30am Communion at SPJST</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 9:30am LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg - Caldwell 6:30pm Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 8:30am Folding Bulletins 1:30pm Prayer Time 2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Church Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>
<p>11</p> <p> <b>Baptism in the Lord</b></p> <p>9:00am Handbell Choir Practice - Sanctuary 10:00am Worship - Sanctuary 11:00am Brunch, Sunday School, Confirmation and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 9:00am Sr. Quilting (weather permitting) to Dr. Pepper Museum (cost \$12/person); Meet at St. Paul House Parking Lot</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 6:30pm Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 8:30am Folding Bulletins 1:30pm Prayer Time 2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open Church Office Closed</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Church Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>
<p>18</p> <p>10:00am Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary 11:00am Brunch, Sunday School, Confirmation and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Church Office Closed Newsletter Articles Due 9:30am LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg - Taylor Hosts 6:30pm Council Meeting - St. Paul House 6:30pm Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Church Office Closed 8:30am Folding Bulletins 11:30am Women of the Word - Sirloin Stockade 1:30pm Prayer Time 2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Church Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Pastor's Day Off</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Annual Congregational Meeting Immediately following service 9:00am Handbell Choir Practice - Sanctuary 10:00am Worship - Sanctuary 11:00am Brunch, Sunday School, Confirmation and Adult Education 12:00pm Radio - KRXT 98.5 FM</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 6:30pm Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open 8:30am Folding Bulletins 1:30pm Prayer Time 2:00pm Pastor's Bible Study</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:00am Church Office - Open Congregational Cruise</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Church Office Closed Congregational Cruise Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Congregational Cruise Pastor's Day Off</p>

**We Remember in Prayer**

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

**Our Members:**

Olin Tiemann, Kent Safarik.

**Our Shut Ins:**

Aileen Bunge, Cynthia Beran, David Kuempel, Gloria Bartosh, Carol Lantzsch, Inez Sladek, Grace Bulgerin, Mary Miller, Geraldine Steger, Lomis Weber, Lisa Cox, Geraldine Cox, Carolyn Jacobson.

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

Karen Parker, Rick Mosley, Don Williams, Hazel Chasak, Bill Cody, Randel Duelm, Penny Dittman, Alan Debus, Robert Harty, Authur Moreno, Jack Dismukes, Calvin and Rosalie Jechow, Sandra Milner, Dora Brittian, Ryan Richey, Mary Perez, Rob Randig, Gayla Lantzsch, Tommy Harrison, Walter Moldenhauer.

***Assisted Living/Nursing Home:***

**SPJST Assisted Living:**

Geraldine Cox  
Grace Bulgerin

**Taylor SPJST Nursing Home:**

Geraldine Steger  
Mary Miller  
Carol Lantzsch  
Aileen Bunge

**The Monarch:**

Joanne Rummel

**Brookdale Assisted Living:**

Carolyn Jacobson

**Trinity Care Round Rock**

David Kuempel

**80th Birthdays & Above**

Gladys Townsend 1/20/36 90 Yrs

**25th Anniversary:**

None

**30th Anniversary :**

None

**40th Anniversary:**

None

**50th Anniversaries & Above**

None

**Daily Bible Reading Guide**

January

The Daily Bible Reading guide has not yet been published by the Lutheran Bible Translators organization for 2026.

Once available we will continue to provide that daily guide to you. You may also watch for the release at [www.lbt.org](http://www.lbt.org). Simply type 'daily bible reading guide' into the search bar to look for the 2026 guide.

# News & Views

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

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

Christmas Wishes and Thanks from those we support!



WITH HEARTFELT APPRECIATION,  
HEIFER INTERNATIONAL RECOGNIZES

St. Paul Lutheran Church

for your unwavering dedication and support that inspires us all.  
Your faith-filled generosity changes lives and brings hope to families around the world.

*"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion,  
and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:11*

*Christy Moore*

Heifer International



December 2025

Date

0000400 69.ACERTCC24

*Merry Christmas*

§

*Happy New Year!*

Wishing you all the joys of the season and happiness throughout the coming year. Happy Holidays from your friends at Upbring!

*Merry Christmas to everyone at St. Paul! May you all have a blessed holiday season!*

♥ *Katie Evans*