

# For All The Saints



*The Epistle of St. Paul Lutheran Church, The Grove, Texas*

*May 2024*

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Dear Fellow Redeemed:

Have you ever heard these words? Have you ever been in a situation where you have had to say them? The words I am referring to are: "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" Why not just make people swear to tell the truth? Or make them promise not to lie?

Any parent who has ever had to interrogate a child about a broken lamp, or heisted cookie, or a knockdown, drag out over a toy knows the answer. There are plenty of ways to try to get out of trouble without technically lying. You tell just enough of the truth to skate on by. We learn that very early in life. From little on we seem to enjoy playing the game to see just how close we can get to sinning without technically going over the line.

But in our heart of hearts we know that this is not what God intended when He gave us the Ten Commandments. He is not merely giving us a negative rule or something He doesn't want us to do as a challenge to see just how close we can get while just barely staying away from this or that. There is much more to each Commandment than just something we are not to do. Every Commandment also tells us how He would have us live. For example, we shouldn't just avoid murdering people — we should be of service to our neighbor.

As I said just a second ago and as I have said to hundreds of folks in settings were we have studied the Ten Commandments, for each negative prohibition in the Commandments there is a positive good that we are to cherish and protect. In the Eighth Commandment, that gift is the reputation of our neighbor and our relationship with him:

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Your relationship with your family members (who are your nearest neighbors), the other members of our congregation, your coworkers and your friends is one of the most precious gifts you have been given. You need to exercise good stewardship with this gift just as much as you need to exercise good stewardship with your life, resources, time, and income. This is an especially fragile gift because it's easy to ruin a relationship with slander, gossip, and talking behind someone's back.

But speaking well of your neighbor in Christian love is absolutely free; it costs you nothing, yet it pays you great dividends. If you find this challenging at times, if you are tempted to speak poorly of others, or even find yourself telling lies about them, just remember that this other person is also a beloved child of God for whom your Lord Jesus suffered and died. Your Lord Jesus loves you both.

In HIS service and yours,

Pastor Heckmann  
Hebrews 13:20-21

**National Day of Prayer Service  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Thursday, May 2, 2024  
7:00 p.m.**

You are invited to join your brothers and sisters in Christ for a time of prayer and meditation on this, the annual National Day of Prayer. We have invited the saints who call Fortress Lutheran Church home to join us for this time of worship. Pastor Pennington will be helping lead the service.

The theme of the service will be based on words that you hear week after week, month after month, year after year, decade after decade, as you come to the Lord's house to worship. Those words are found in 1 Timothy 1:2 and 2 Timothy 1:2 as St. Paul says, *Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Our Prayer Service is designed around those first three words — those three gifts that come to us from our gracious Father and our Savior — Grace, Mercy, and Peace.

I encourage you to join us for this time of worship and fellowship together with the saints from Fortress. Invite your friends to join us as well. And if you need even more reason to gather for worship, there will be cookies and drinks to enjoy with each other following our time of worship.



**PERMANENT LOGIN INFORMATION FOR LIVE STREAMED SERVICES ON VARIOUS PLATFORMS**

**FaceBook Live** at <https://www.facebook.com/St-Paul-Lutheran-Church-The-Grove-109288640704387/> This is an updated address to get you there in case you are not already on FaceBook and want to watch the service without having to sign up for FaceBook.

**YouTube** permanent address <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCXYIcwW-U5ZaF5m2vYn8vw>

**Vimeo on our Website** address <http://www.stpaulthegrove.org> Then click on the Vimeo button, the little "V" at the top right hand corner of the page and you will be hooked up for the live stream of the service. You can also go there to watch archived services from the past as well.

# Sunday School News

By: Kathy Smith, Sunday School Superintendent

## Perfect Attendance for March

Cooper Munz      Lillian Penny      Titus Boswell      Julia Morrow      Evelyn Penny  
Asher Boswell      Lydia Morrow      Tabitha Morrow      Ethan Boswell

## May Birthdays

Titus Boswell – 2<sup>nd</sup>      Andreas Reigle – 3<sup>rd</sup>      Ziyon Turner – 17<sup>th</sup>      Chloe Boswell – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Ethan Boswell – 18<sup>th</sup>      Evelyn Penny – 19<sup>th</sup>      Alexander Whisenant – 26<sup>th</sup>

*Happy Birthday and God's Blessings to you!!!*

## May Baptism Birthdays

Lacey Phillips – 3<sup>rd</sup>      Ellison Castilleja – 6<sup>th</sup>      Kohen Castilleja – 9<sup>th</sup>      Titus Boswell – 12<sup>th</sup>  
Rell Turner – 12<sup>th</sup>      Chloe Boswell – 31<sup>st</sup>

*Happy Baptism Birthday and God's Spiritual Blessings to you!!!*

## Memory Work for May

**May 5:** Obey your leaders...for they are keeping watch over your souls. Hebrews 13:17

**May 12:** [Jesus says,] "I am with you always." Matthew 28:20

**May 19:** You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

**May 26:** Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases. Psalm 103:2-3

## Prayer Partners

Please remember to contact your prayer partner monthly. For questions or concerns, please contact Kathy Smith, 512-773-4037. **Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18**

## Offerings

**March:** We donated **\$482.65** for **Gatesville Care Center**

**April:** So far, we have received **\$321.00** Churches Touching Lives for Christ -Happy Bags Program.

**May:** We will support **Hope Pregnancy Center**.

**We love because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19**

Thank you for all your love and support with these mission projects!!

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, May 12:** Muffins with Mom

**Sunday, June 16:** Donuts with Dad

**Save the date: Vacation Bible School** will be June 17-21, 2024.

**Saturday, August 24:** Circuit-wide Sunday School Teacher Training, guest speaker Dr. Philip Hohle

**Sunday, August 25:** Education Sunday

# 2024 Easter Egg Hunt Event Photos





### **May LWML Bible Study and Social:**

Ladies, please consider attending the next Lutheran Women’s Missionary League meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. We will begin with a meal, followed by the Bible study, “Take My Life,” in the Spring Quarterly. If you’re looking to connect, or to be more active in our church community, we would love to have you come check us out! Our church’s LWML meets every third Tuesday of the month to enjoy a time of fellowship, plan church events, and to serve others.

*“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10)*

### **May Mission Project**

This May, we will be filling baby bottles with money to be donated to Hope Pregnancy Center.

*“Take care of him and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back” (Luke 10:33–35)*

### **May Mission Grant Recipients:**

#### **Lutheran Women in Mission Finish the Job - Ministry in Mission, Haiti — \$85,000**

Ministry in Mission has been working in Haiti for 15 years with the leadership of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti to meet the needs of people as they respond to devastating hurricanes and political unrest. An earthquake in 2021 destroyed many churches and work was begun to rebuild the churches. Currently the churches are open for worship as work continues. The necessary materials are in the country to finish floors, repair electrical work, install toilets, and complete furnishings. This grant will help purchase other needed supplies to finish the restoration work. Ministry in Mission and the Lutheran Church of Haiti also continue to care for the spiritual and physical needs of the people at the Center of Refuge Orphanage and The Jacamel Lutheran Home for the elderly.

#### **Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals - Trinity HOPE — \$58,082**

In Haiti, 4.4 million people suffer from acute hunger; the cycle of poverty is almost never broken. Haitian children attending school have trouble learning with empty stomachs. Trinity HOPE daily feeds and shares the Gospel with children, teachers, and cooks in Christian schools throughout the country. This grant will be used to feed approximately 538 children, teachers, and cooks each school day for two academic years at Paul et Isabel Lutheran School in Hinche, Haiti.

Children are taught to pray before they eat and when not hungry, are better prepared to participate in classroom activities. They are fed physically and spiritually every day they are in school and become missionaries to their families, bringing them out of the darkness of voodoo, a national religion, and into the light of Jesus.

*“Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children” (Psalm 90:16)*

# Confirmation, Graduation, New Member Dinner

By Janell Winkler

You are invited to join us for dinner on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at noon, as we celebrate and honor our confirmands and graduates for 2024 and welcome our new members for the past year. Those being honored this year are:

## **Confirmands:**

Logan Glynn

Alexzander Whisenant

Cadence Williams

## **High School Graduates:**

Sarah Golden

Kyndall Houchin

Emi Ralston

## **New Members:**

Joe Bland

Brandy Burkett

Jean Diehl

Jacob Diehl

Hayden Heck

Gina Krause

Raegan Price

Mel Thopson

Mike & Diana Lockhart

Jacob & Elizabeth Michalk

Eddie Wilkerson

(If we have missed someone, please let Deb Heckmann, our church secretary, know.)

The meal will be a Mexican stack up, watermelon, and cake. If you will be able to join us, please sign up on the sheet of paper on the table in the Narthex on May 12<sup>th</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup>, or May 26<sup>th</sup> so that our LWML will know how many to plan for on this special day.

# C.L.A.S.S.I.C.S.

*(morning Bible study held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month)*

By: Sherry Hartgrove

The CLASSICS group met on April 18, 2024, with 19 saints in attendance. We continued our study of **Jesus Said WHAT?**

Pastor Heckmann led us this month as we studied Chapter 8— Fear God?. The key text for discussion was Luke 12:1-7. The group discussed the destinies of those who believe in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior and those who do not. Matthew 25:46 states, "And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." Jesus warns us throughout Scripture about hell and affirms the existence of hell in Luke 12:5: "But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell." Several explanations given by members for the meaning "to fear God" included—"a desire to obey Him," "not wanting to disappoint Him," and "to have trust in Him." Everyone agreed that "to fear the Lord" is to stand in awe of his majesty, power, and wisdom.

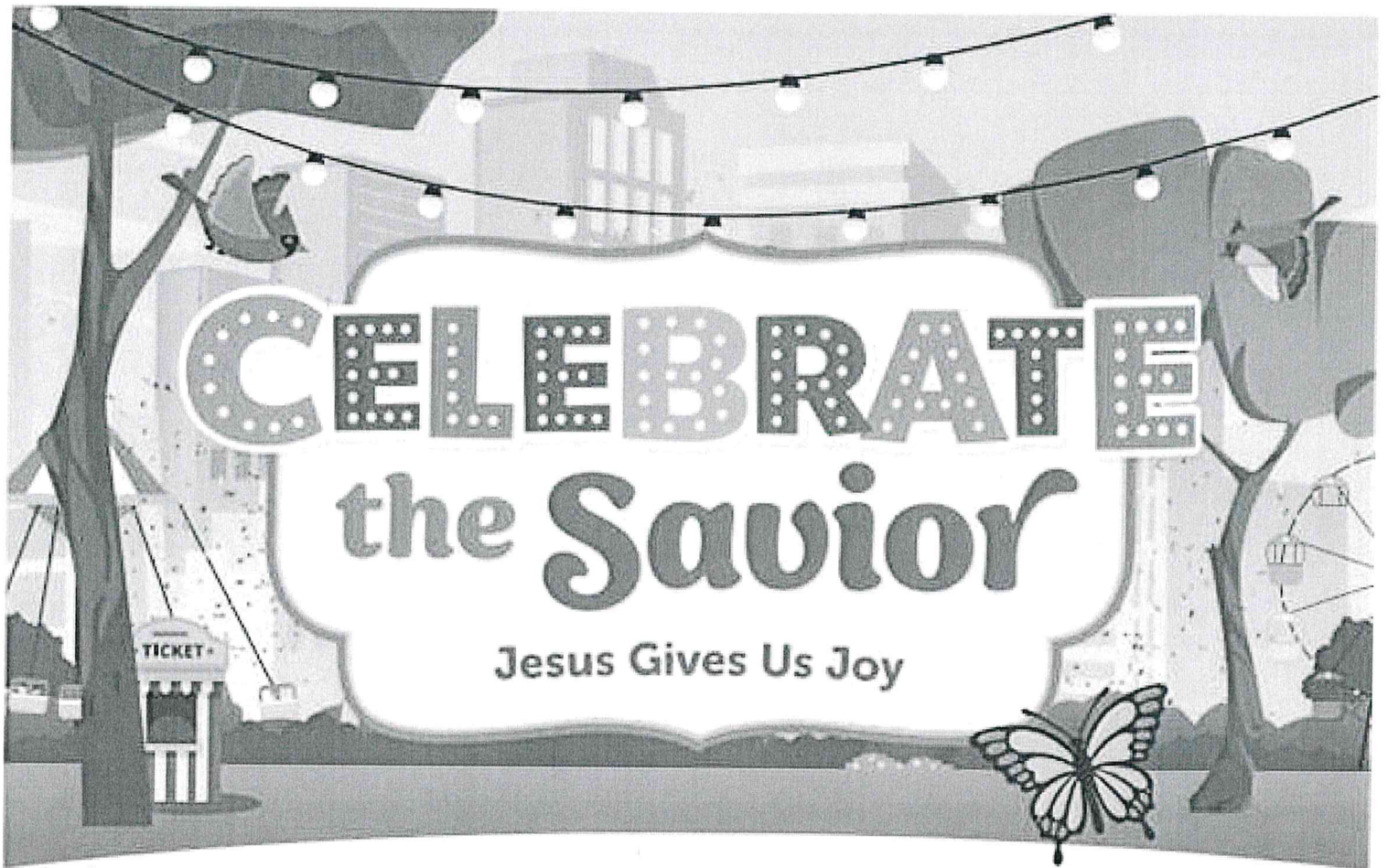
We also discussed Chapter 9— Sent To Hell For Speaking An Insult?. The key text for discussion was Matthew 5:21-26. Sin involves more than physical actions—it includes thoughts and attitudes. The author emphasized throughout the text that Jesus wants us to replace hurtful words from an angry heart with uplifting words from a joyful heart. Ephesians 4:29 states God's expectations from us—"Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

There were no April birthdays. We then adjourned to a delicious "baked potato bar" lunch.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, May 16, 2024. In May, we will discuss Chapter 10— Cut Off Your Hand?. The noon meal will consist of the following: meatloaf (Sy), potatoes (Sharon & Sue), green beans (Nora), salad (Trina), and desserts (Barbara, Catherine, Gina). Our meetings are open to everyone, and we hope you will join us for Bible Study, lunch, and fellowship.



**The CLASSICS group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the MPR and is an opportunity to spend more time in the Word of God with fellow believers. Lunch and fellowship follow the study session.**



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**June 17-21, 2024, 8am - 11am**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
220 The Grove Road, Gatesville, Texas**



**SIGN UP ANYTIME USING THE QR CODE**

**OR**

**SIGN UP AFTER CHURCH ON MAY 26, JUNE 2, OR JUNE 9**

**Questions? Interested in volunteering?**

**Call/Text/Email**

**ashleywinklerdvm@gmail.com**

**254-366-1632**





# MAY 2024

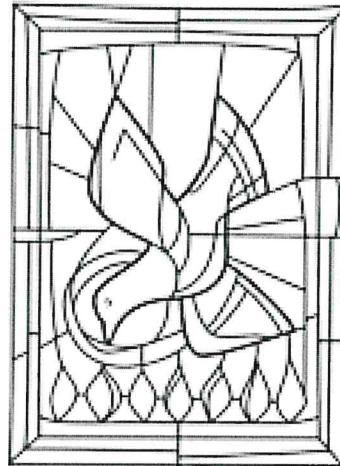
## ***Birthdays***

2 Titus Boswell  
3 Andreas Reigle  
4 Trina Munz  
5 Jeff Morris  
6 Shawn Thoe  
9 Timothy Michalk  
9 Brock Winkler  
10 Darlene Riske  
10 Amy Velasquez  
11 Beverly Halbert  
11 Hayden Heck  
13 David Glaser  
13 Robert Symm  
14 Alaynah Wrisk  
15 Kelli Alsup  
15 Clarise Mendez  
17 Ziyon Turner  
18 Gus Brown  
18 Ethan Boswell  
18 Chloe Boswell  
18 Priscilla Stroud  
19 Evelyn Penny  
22 Janell Winkler  
23 Jared Boriack  
24 Carl Symm  
26 Debra Heckmann  
26 Alexzander Whisenant  
27 Sherry Hartgrove  
29 Kathy Smith  
31 Rev John Heckmann  
31 Elmer Arldt  
31 Callie Rainer  
31 Tricia Michalk

## ***Anniversaries***

11 Jeremy and Rebekah Munz  
13 Dick and Judy Riess  
16 Dean and Peggy Cassens  
24 Lance and Kim Alsup  
24 Ricky and Tana Snoddy  
27 David and April Glaser  
28 Victor and Yvonne Dutschmann  
31 Jim and Angela Stephens

*(If your birth date or anniversary date is listed incorrectly, please let the church office know. If it is not included here, please share that information as well.)*



## **SERVING IN MAY**

### **FLOWERS FOR MONTH**

5. Shawn and Mary Thoe  
12. Dick and Judy Riess  
19. Confirmation  
26. Doug and Mellissa Boswell

### **GREETERS**

Trina Munz and Renèe Owen

### **USHERS**

\*Manny Velasquez, David Blankemeier,  
Don Golden, Robert Morrow,  
Travis Smith

### **ORGANIST**

Miriam Winkler

### **MONEY COUNTER & HELPER**

Tina Reynolds and Nora Morrow

### **CEMETERY CARETAKERS**

The Jimmy Sohns Family

### **HISTORICAL CEMETERY**

The Glenn Winkler Family

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Brianna Boswell and Amber Boswell

### **ELDER OF THE MONTH**

Sy Hargrove

### **ACOLYTES**

5. Sydney Golden  
12. Henry Springfield  
19. Alexzander Whisenant  
26. Cadence Williams

# MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>St. Paul Lutheran Church-MS 220 The Grove Road Gatesville, Texas 76528 Twitter: @LWMLPHeckmann</p>	<p>Office Phone: 986-2607 Home Phone: 986-2425 Web: www.stpaulthegrove.org Email: pastor@stpaulthegrove.org</p>					
<p>5 <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i> Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Youth Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Classes 9:00 a.m. Worship w/ Communion 10:15am</p>	<p>6 Virtual SMP Seminary Class 6:00-8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>7 Circuit Pastor's Conference at Faith, Lampasas 8:30 a.m. Quilting Bee 9:00 a.m. – Noon Board of Education 5:30 p.m. Board of Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>1 Midweek Religion Classes 6:30-8:00 pm Ladies' Evening Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>2 SMP study and mentoring with Pastor Pennington – Fortress 9:00 a.m. <b>National Day of Prayer Service HERE 7:00 p.m.</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 LYF Set-up for Mother's Day Banquet 9:00 a.m.</p>
<p>12 <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i> <b>Muffins with Mom 8:15 a.m.</b> Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Youth Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Classes 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:15 a.m. <b>Mother's Day Banquet 11:30am</b></p>	<p>13 Virtual SMP Seminary Class 6:00-8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>14 Worship Service at The Meadows 10:00 a.m. Worship Service at Hillside Nursing Home 11:00 a.m.</p>	<p>15 Meet with Pastor Pennington – Fortress 9:00 a.m. Midweek Religion Classes 6:30-8:00 pm Ladies' Evening Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>16 CLASSICS 10:00 a.m.  <i>Pictures taken for Pictorial Directory 2:00-8:30 p.m.</i></p>	<p>17 <i>Pictures taken for Pictorial Directory 2:00-8:30 p.m.</i> Confirmation Class Questioning 7:00 p.m. Cookie Reception to follow. Everyone is invited.</p>	<p>18  <i>Pictures taken for Pictorial Directory 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.</i></p>
<p>19 <i>Pentecost/Confirmation Sunday</i> Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Youth Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Classes 9:00 a.m. Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am LYF Meeting 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>20 Virtual SMP Seminary Class 6:00-8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>21 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 a.m. Quilting Bee 9:00 a.m. – Noon Artesian Ministries Board of Directors Meeting 9:30 a.m. LWML Bible Study at the FAC 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>22 SMP study and mentoring with Pastor Pennington – Fortress 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>23 SMP study and mentoring with Pastor Pennington – Fortress 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>"Gathered by Christ" Small Group Bible Study – MPR – 5:00 p.m.  <i>26 Holy Trinity Sunday</i> Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Youth Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Classes 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:15 a.m.</p>	<p>27 <i>Memorial Day Observed</i> Virtual SMP Seminary Class 6:00-8:00 p.m.  Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>28 "Jesus Said What?" Small Group Bible Study – James and Faye Morrow's home 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>29 SMP study and mentoring with Pastor Pennington – Fortress 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>30 SMP study and mentoring with Pastor Pennington – Fortress 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>31</p>	
<p>Sy and Sherry Hartgrove Cell Group in Multipurpose Room 5:00 p.m.</p>						