



Paul Owens, Senior Pastor

On our nation's birthday

We celebrate our nation's birthday this month. A lot has happened and much has changed in 243 years. Long before our nation or any other nation came into being, God created marriage and the family as the **basic unit of society**. God ordained the calling of husband and wife to be partners under him for procreation, the raising of children, and the care of the creation on God's behalf. It was then through one particular family – Abraham and Sarah – that the Lord then initiated his plan to bless all the families of the earth by getting his Word out to all. Eventually, God carried out the fullness of his plan by sending his Word in the flesh in Jesus Christ... to save all families from sin, death, and the power of the Devil. You could say that in God's plan the family is the "first church." It is parents whom God names and calls to teach his plan and Word to their children... in order to bless our neighbor and glorify God. That's what family is for. And God institutes congregations to support parents in their calling by making sure families have opportunity to hear God's Word, be baptized, and receive his supper. Want a healthier nation? The Lord says that starts in your home... with his Word in your ears, hearts, and lives.

Is there a dark age ahead? In her book, Dark Age Ahead, social analyst and urban planner Jane Jacobs warned that we are heading down the same path as Rome. The collapse of Rome was brought on by the collapse of strong families. Jacobs sees a lethal dynamic at work: "*The collapse of one sustaining cultural institution enfeebles others... With each collapse, still further ruin becomes more likely.*" A sobering message. Our Lord's message in scripture is clear: the kingdoms of this world rise and fall. As Christians, our Lord and Savior tells us: "*do not grow weary or faint-hearted in your struggle against sin... we are now citizens of a kingdom not made with hands... a kingdom that cannot be shaken.*" (Hebrews 12).

You can dislike or argue against what I am about to write, but it remains true biblically and statistically: the key "ingredient" to a healthy family is a faithful man who loves and honors his wife and engages with his children, raising them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. There are no perfect families and Jesus forgives every sin that is afoot in yours. He also does not want your family to collapse from within. Recently, three different dads asked me: "how do I get started in reading the Bible with my wife, with my family, together?" God bless these men. If you would like help leading your family, give me a call or send an e-mail.

What is our nation's greatest asset and liability? Your family.



Tex Brown, President

Thank you for your vote of confidence to continue as your Congregation President. I am humbled to serve and look forward to this next year with the some returning and some newly elected members of the Church Council. We have just completed a wonderful past 12 months with many new members joining our fellowship as well as numerous outreach opportunities being highlighted. The most recent was an awesome VBS program. Thanks to SO many volunteers who made it happen for the kids as they ROARED like Lions in late June! Many families who don't even attend SPLC were touched by this program and therefore it is truly an outreach event for our church. So again THANK YOU to the organizers and volunteers who made this year's Vacation Bible School such a great success! Now the summer is in full swing and youth camps like Slumber Falls and Camp Eagle are ongoing and also have been highly successful. Our youth have been fully engaged and not just having FUN, but also seeing Jesus at work in their lives. Thanks to all the adults who help lead these programs. Music is better than ever and though the adult choir is on a short break, Jody is always looking for singers and musicians to be a part of our worship services. If you can sing or play, please let Jody or Ann know about your talent. Choir will resume again in late July or early August and we need YOU!! See you at St. Paul Lutheran as we worship and serve our Lord together.

As a Christ-centered, Gospel-driven Congregation, we are called by our Lord Jesus to go and make disciples of all nations. We will be a congregation that engages people in order to help families follow Jesus.

* Promote a culture of family ... supporting home prayer & Bible study with parents as key teachers

* Increase our outreach and mission presence outside our walls* Strive for excellence in spiritual leadership



2019 Community Bible Camp at Slumber Falls

“Under Construction-God is at Work in our Lives” was the theme for the 2019 Community Bible Camp for elementary aged children at Slumber Falls in New Braunfels. St. Paul Lutheran hosted the camp. Forty-seven elementary aged children attended – Approximately twenty-seven represented St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Bible Stories focused on “God at Work” through Noah, Joshua and Nehemiah. Campers and volunteers build faith, and Christian friendships while enjoying the beautiful outdoors of God’s creation.

Teams were challenged to learn the daily Bible verse - - - and they all did! Each day, teams participated in a Bible story time, games, and crafts. In addition, campers enjoyed playing gaga ball and “hanging out” on the camp playground. The day ended with a whole camp swim time followed by fellowship and snacks, Bible verse sharing and closing prayer.

Thank you to the faithful and caring adult volunteer activity and team leaders and nurse. The Youth Counselors were awesome – guiding a small group about camp, sharing faith, and assisting campers when needed. Volunteers make this camp possible to share God’s love with elementary aged campers from St. Paul and the community!

2019 LCMC Texas District Gathering

Registration is open now online:
2019LCMCTexas.eventbrite.com



Adults - \$50 thru 7/15/19
 \$60 after 7/15/19
 Youth & Kids – HALF PRICE

Graduates of 2019

Congratulations to our
 High School graduates!
 Best of luck in your
 new adventures!

Jackson Baese
 Andrew Brostowicz
 Torri Key
 Joshua Martinez
 Bobby Pfluger, II
 Savannah Schwab
 Sarah Syamken
 Daphne White



Newly Elected on Council

At the June 23rd Congregational Meeting, the following members were elected to leadership roles.

Council

President – Tex Brown
 Vice President – David Doss
 Children’s Ministry – Nathan Bostick
 Congregational Life – M’Lissa Steel
 Personnel – Eric Schmidt
 Property – Bob Warnecke
 Stewardship – Tim Cook
 Risk Management – Chuck Dicker

State Delegates

Jenna Collinsworth; Paul Giese; Randy Wallis

National Delegates

Paul Giese and M’Lissa Steel

VBS

VBS was a great success! We had a record number of 250 children that we shared the love and Word of God.



We couldn’t have done it without the help of numerous volunteers that generously gave of their time, talents, and donations of goods. Thank you to all that made the 2019 ROAR VBS a great week for so many children!

July Flowers



July 7 - Ralph & Ann Schmidt
 July 14 - Paul & Georgia Tadlock
 July 21 - Daniel & Rachel Phife
 July 28 - Stuart & Dina Dornburg

Preschool Ministry



The month of July we are learning how Jesus gives us the power to love others—and not just the ones who are easy to love. No, this kind of power is what helps us love everyone! This powerful kind of love looks a lot like goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Our memory verse for the month is “I can do everything by the power of Christ.”-Philippians 4:13. Please pray for us as we will have our Texas Rising Star assessment July 22-23.

Breaking Bread

Breaking Bread is planning something *very special* - **June 23** a gathering of all of you who have participated in the program. Details will follow with specifics for time and food. Put the date on your calendars now! We'll meet at Richard and Roxanne Ware's house - they have a swimming pool for any interested in taking a dip - and a great big deck, perfect for entertaining.

Although the we are winding down for the summer to begin again at the end of August, any who want to continue meeting, please do so. Any who would like to join in the fun, but have no group that's meeting or are new to the program contact me and we'll get connections going. Dotty [Collins—dotty@postofficerealty.com](mailto:dotty@postofficerealty.com) or cell (830) 708-5198.

Meanwhile, put Breaking Bread on your calendar for the fall. The friendships made around dining tables are truly the treasures. Watch for sign-up information toward the end of August.



St Paul Youth News

Camp Eagle in Rocksprings
 July 2-7

Coming Up....
 Mission New Braunfels
 July 15-19

<https://www.shelbygiving.com/f/f2?formid=643c226a-c62c-483d-bb6e-d91528baba47>

**the link is live on the website for sign-up and the cost is \$100

Summer Schedule

We will be having youth activities throughout the summer. Please join our REMIND for updates by texting @9k4ce9 to 81010. Also, if you are not on the SPY email distribution, please contact Lynn Lear at llear@att.net.



Mission Moment

Texas District By Pastor Bryce Formwalt Director of Mission Growth

To read Pastor Bryce's latest article in its entirety, please go to:

<http://www.lcmctexas.org/mission-moment>

Let There Be Light campaign



Thank you, thank you, thank you for supporting the Let There Be Light campaign. This is the latest from Jerry and Stacy Kramer, serving in Northern Iraq:

It's Ramadan, the summer inferno is ramping up and we've distributed nearly 200 bucket filters, solar lights, and Book of Psalms to the tents of orphans and widows of UN Camp Sandy. The reception and openness to prayer and sharing have been incredible. In every tent the reception has been welcoming and many have been healed of various maladies. Thanks to all who sponsored a tent through Let There Be Light 2.0! *Please pray for stamina and a fresh wind as we have a total of 480 tents to visit in the increasing heat. And many of our team members have been ill.*

The US has evacuated non-emergency personnel from the embassy here and advised Americans not to travel to Iraq. Some big organizations have left. This is part of life in this region and, to be honest, we were about six months overdue for an incident of some kind. We want you to know we are safe, our daily life has not changed, and we are being vigilant. ***Our plan is to pray, keep our heads down and make disciples. Please pray for boldness and favor as we continue on. Doors are opening and it's time to press in.***

For current events and information, please visit www.nbstpaul.org.

July 2019

Senior Pastor - Rev. Paul Owens - pastorpaul@nbstpaul.org
Pastor - Rev. Charles "Chip" Reynolds - pastorchip@nbstpaul.org.
Executive Director of Operations & Preschool - Michelle Rivera - michelle@nbstpaul.org
Administrative Coordinator - Jennifer Burrows - jennifer@nbstpaul.org
Bookkeeper/Controller - Stacy Garcia - stacy@nbstpaul.org
Director of Music & Creative Arts - Jody Noblett - jody@nbstpaul.org
Maintenance Technician- Jason Crofford - jason@nbstpaul.org
Organist - Ann Brown
Staff - Alison Setser - alison@nbstpaul.org
Staff - Jo Schomberg - jo@nbstpaul.org
Staff - Shelby Hines - shelby@nbstpaul.org
CHURCH OFFICE (830) 625-9191
PRESCHOOL (830) 625-2044
FAX (830) 620-7715



www.nbstpaul.org

Please join us on Sunday mornings for worship and the Bible study hour:
Traditional Worship 8:00 a.m.; Bible study hour 9:15-10:15 a.m.; Informal Worship 10:30 a.m.



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