

The Epistle

Paul Owens, Senior Pastor

You've Been Elected and SENT

First, I am happy to report that many of you responded to the questions "How did your life with Jesus begin? And, what have you learned about him since then?" Your responses are truly inspiring, authentic, humorous and humbling. And men, the ladies are far ahead of you in their responses: eight of ten responses came from women... only two from you guys. Where are you... especially since the Lord calls you to be the loving leader of your household?



Never mind about Donald or Hillary. Our hope has NEVER been in a president or ruler of this world. You, my friend, have been elected and sent as a witness to Jesus Christ. Knowing your concise answer to the two questions above will prepare you for your daily mission, your daily "sent-ness". Where does the Lord send you? **Into your everyday life.** Every trip to the gas station, to H E B, to the mall, to school, or to work is a **micro mission trip**. When you put on your tie each morning, or pull on your boots, or put on your uniform or your sweater, you are dressing for your mission. It is a cop-out and Biblically wrong to only think of a select few other Christians who travel far as missionaries. Every Christian – especially you – is a missionary every day.

As you go into everyday life, realize that we as Christians have a PR problem to overcome. Here is some sobering research from George Barna (www.barna.org):

1. The number of un-churched people in America would make the 8th most populous country in the world (the mission field is right outside your door, even under your roof).
2. In the past decade, more people in the U.S. have become churchless than live in Australia (24 million) or Canada (35+ million).
3. **The vast majority of churchless Americans have attended a church.**
4. To the average unchurched person, Christians come across as grumpy and judgmental.
5. While the churchless are primarily men, the percentage of women in their ranks is on the rise.
6. The unchurched are more likely to be unmarried.
7. The younger a person, the less likely he or she is to attend church.
8. Unchurched adults are most likely to be white.
9. The majority of the churchless in America nonetheless claim Christianity as their faith, even though they disregard the Bible's teaching.

In this reality, this mission field, how is it that people come into a faith relationship with Jesus? The Institute for Church Growth reports that people do so through:

* Evangelistic crusade	.5%
* Walk in to a church service	1-2%
* Church program (VBS, Sun Sch)	2-4%
* Pastor	4-6%
* Friend or relative	80-90%

Maybe we need to learn how to talk with people about Jesus and stop inviting them to church? Maybe relationships with people matter more than our programs? Every day, people meet Jesus – or don't – through you. Let's help each other be more effective witnesses in the mission field.

In the field with you,

Pastor Paul



Facility and Property Usage Policies

As a congregation we seek the wise use of our facility and property, and we must seek to obey the law of the land. To that end, updates and changes to our facility and property use guidelines were approved by Council as of September 19, 2016. These changes resulted from guidance the Council received from the recent compliance review conducted by Sommerville & Associates, P.C.—Certified Public Accounts.

Background: Sommerville emphasized the importance of understanding the *potential tax consequences* that may arise from persons or groups outside the Church using the facilities. A summary of the guidance follows:

Use of the Property falls into three categories:

Related Use – use for either the Church’s own groups or by other groups that have a similar mission and purpose as the Church.

Community Use – use which provides a service to the community as a whole, e.g., an election polling place or a high school graduation ceremony.

Unrelated Use – use by persons involved in for-profit business or with organizations that have no relation to the Church’s mission.

Analyzing the use of the property determines:

- Whether the Church should agree on the proposed use;
- Whether the Church will have to report any related income for federal tax purposes; and/or
- Whether the use will jeopardize the Church’s property tax exemption on any of its facilities.

General rules:

Use by the Church’s members to celebrate life’s events may be encouraged, i.e., weddings, baptisms, anniversaries, etc.

Use by those groups that further a mission similar to the Church’s mission may be allowed for nominal fees as long as the requirements of the Facilities Usage Policy are kept, i.e., requirements for signed applications and insurance.

Use by outside groups that do not further the mission of the church should be avoided even if it is a nonprofit organization.

Use by for-profit groups should always be avoided.

All use by anyone should always be accompanied by a signed agreement.

Regular rental of facilities that are exempt from property taxes can jeopardize the property tax exemption.

Based on these recommendations, the Property Board updated its existing facility and equipment use guidelines and applications and also asked the St. Martin Committee and Worship Board to review its policies/guidelines. All these documents may be viewed online at www.nbstpaul.org under the Resources tab by selecting Policies.

In addition to a revised fee structure, a major change is that no off-campus use of church property is allowed. While many of us have appreciated borrowing items like tables and chairs in the past, we must make this change in order to comply with the law. Another change is the Application for Use must be submitted for all requests for use which is not church-sponsored use because events must support the Mission and Ministries of SPLC.

Should you have questions about these new policies, please contact Lanelle Rudolph, Church Administrator, or Danny Zunker, Director of the Property Board.

Congregational Meeting, November 20, 2016

Following 10:30am worship in Sanctuary.

Voting on 2017 Operating & Capital needs budget.

November 2016

Building Commission

FIXER UPPER

Chip and Joanna Gaines are the stars of the show *FIXER UPPER* on HGTV. The couple met in 2001 and after a two-year courtship married in 2003. Sometime after that they started renovating houses in Waco. That's when one of the producers over at the network happened onto Joanna's blog and gave her a call. That was three years ago. Now they're national celebrities. This month they were on the cover of *Texas Monthly* and *People*.

The show is simple. Chip and Joanna take on someone's house as a project. Joanna talks to the homeowner about what they want then Chip takes over and does the work. The climax to the show is when the renovated home gets presented to the homeowner. It's not cutting edge TV or anything. It's really pretty basic. So what's so great about the show? Why is it such a success? If it's not the concept, then there is only one thing it could be.

It's Chip and Joanna. They're an incredibly easy couple to like. They're friendly. And they're charismatic, but in a normal wholesome way.

I read the *Texas Monthly* article. As a Christian man, I felt like the author placed Chip and Joanna under attack. And I felt like it was based on their Christian beliefs. I'll mention here that Chip and Joanna make no attempt to hide the fact that they are a Christian couple and frequently have guests on the show that are members of their church. It's right out there for the whole world to see. And it comes off really cool. Remember what I said about being charismatic in a normal and wholesome way?

As I read the article in *Texas Monthly*, I was reminded that Satan is constantly on the prowl, looking to upset any Christian ministry that seems to be taking root. He can't stand it that Chip and Joanna – a Christian couple living by Christian values – can be perceived as cool. He wants the opposite.

I'm fixin' to tie this all together right now. God has placed on Pastor Paul's heart the need for us to be better witnesses. Our Senior Pastor has written about that very thing in his article the last couple of months. Maybe this is our chance. We got our own *Fixer Upper* here at St. Paul right now. And we're closing in real quick on getting this thing done. We're only two months away. So let's take a cue from the show. When Chip and Joanna finish a project, they know how to handle the big moment. They let their charisma shine through all the more. We're charismatic! And we're just about at that big moment! Let's let our charisma shine through!

The Building Commission is working on some ways to make it easier to let our charisma shine through at this very important point in our ministry. More on that next month. In the meantime...

God's Peace,

Bryan Baese

Building Commission Communication Chair



Thank You

A huge thank you to our gracious God for the beautiful day we enjoyed at Worship Outside Our Walls. It was a blessed day of worship, fellowship, meeting new people, great food and refreshing weather! Thanks to everyone who helped make this an awesome day. The pre-school children were the icing on the cake!

God bless you all and keep you in His tender loving care--
Emily

Our Sympathy to

Roylene Haggard and Carol Schorn on the death of their Aunt Dorothy Cook.

Lisa Brucks on the death of her stepfather Melvin Fetter.

The family & friends William "Bill" Tart.

Pete Montgomery on the death of his father Paxton Montgomery.

Earl & Kery Noble on the death of their mother Bernice Noble.

The family and friends of Dwight Kanz .



Congratulation to



Dave and Andi Holmgren on the birth of their daughter, Addilynn Jean Holmgren, on September 21, 2016.

November Flowers

November 6
Marlin McFarland

November 13
Nolan & Erna Dietert

November 20
Arno & Jimmie Becker

November 27
Open



Dave Ramsey's

Financial Peace
UNIVERSITY

LOOKING FOR FPU GRADS

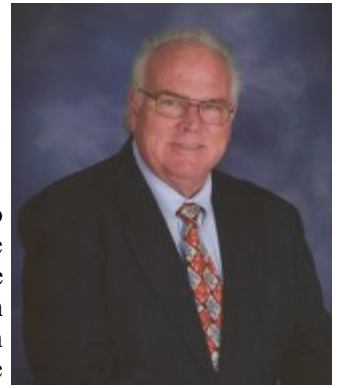
If you have completed Financial Peace University and are interested in serving as a course facilitator in January, please contact Brad Campbell at (830) 708-6458 or dvcrocket@hotmail.com.

HOSPITALIZATION NOTICES

This is just a reminder to all members to notify the church office when you or a loved one is in the hospital. This is especially important if in Resolute New Braunfels. We have a team of hospital visitors who would love to pay you a visit, as well as include you in our prayers. They will also offer Holy Communion to the patient and family, as requested. Thank you for your cooperation.



Fred Terry, Congregation President



Greetings, my brothers and sisters in Christ!

Praise the Lord! The downstairs bathrooms are finished, entry from San Antonio Parking Lot is nearing finish, the elevator is in the works, Administration Offices are about ready, and the Fellowship Hall is looking really great—these are some of the recent accomplishments of the Building Commission, the Architects, the Construction Contractor, and the main trades hard at work on the Master Plan, Phase One. We can actually see and feel this project coming to a completion. Liz Doss, Director of the Building Commission, has a plan laid out as the date comes closer and closer to a celebration to recognize all those who afforded the work of this project.

The other day, I was in conversation with a good friend who explained change. The major jest of his story is this: “Don’t worry about what you can’t change; don’t worry about what you can change. CHANGE IT!! Worry is an absolute waste of time. God’s Word says not to worry; your Father will take care of you! He will make a way where there is no way!” Pastor Paul tells us: “... thank you for wrestling me until I limp into a new future under Your Blessing...” A scripture reading a few Sundays ago in Isaiah, Chapter 41: *“fear not, for I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”* Be prepared for there are changes coming to us at St. Paul!

Finally, we have some fall-like temperatures! I was beginning to think that summer was here to stay. I like the moderate changes to our weather here in Central Texas. I for one take the recent change to the weather as an alert to the hunting seasons, waterfowl and deer. I pray for safety in the field for those of us who hunt. I thank our Father for providing us the opportunity and the freedom to do this.

This month is big for our national, state, and local politics. Remember to “Vote Your Faith on the eighth.” We here in the United States are among the few that have this privilege to make the decision for representation at the different levels of government. Serving on the San Marcos City Council and prior the Planning and Zoning Commission, I know it is not an easy task at that level. Pray for those who go to the polling locations and vote; pray for those who volunteered to run for the office, and mostly, pray for those who win the election and for their ability to sustain the office. *“Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.”* James 1:19-20

Back in October, Bryan Baese, his two sons, a friend’s 17-year-old son, and I, drove over to Houston and just beyond to the San Jacinto Battlegrounds. You all may know this, but I am a native Houstonian and the battlegrounds are one of my favorite places to show others. While there, we took a tour of the USS TEXAS—a World War I and II veteran that is restored and moored there at the battleground. This is right on the Houston Ship Channel, the world’s largest and busiest seaport. We got to see several ocean-going vessels traversing the channel. This is not a religious spot; you will not find a church or even an altar, but every time I visit this hallowed ground, I know that God was there and can feel His presence as He watches over the spot that so many men and women died in the fight for the freedom of independence, as well as the men who died in both wars in the service of their country at sea. In the drive back to Central Texas, there was continuous conversation of what was seen and learned that day. We thank God and all those folks who gave us the freedoms we enjoy every day.

Dave Ramsey is the creator of Financial Peace University (FPU), a program that helps people dump their debt, take control of their money, and learn new financial behaviors that are founded on biblical principles of commitment and accountability. Dr. Eric Schmidt is leading the FPU program called *Momentum* that will begin in January with many of St. Paul leading, teaching, and inspiring others: “We provide biblically based, commonsense education and empowerment that gives HOPE, to everyone in every walk of life.” Join in, I did and it was the best thing that has happened to me since I moved away from Houston to Central Texas! *“The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender.”* Proverbs 22:7

Lord, we thank you for all of your gifts to us, our time, our talents, and our treasures. Teach us the way to use them all to Your Glory! Amen

Your brother in Christ! Fred

The Report Card - Karisha Neely Director

We are thankful...

“Even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28

*“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
Thessalonians 5:18*

His Steadfast Love Endures Forever

100 A Psalm for giving thanks. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!



Giraffes and Monkeys visited the Pumpkin Patch. Fun was had by ALL!

NURSERY & PRESCHOOL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES NURSERY

The Christian Education Board is seeking one or two persons to work at the St. Paul Nursery. The hours are Sundays from 7:45-11:45AM, Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00PM, and possibly Tuesday and/or Thursdays from 6:15-8:00PM. Position qualifications are the same as those for St. Paul Lutheran Preschool. **Preschool:** Full-time teaching positions available. To apply for either, please contact Karisha Neely at karisha@nbstpaul.org or (830) 625-2044.



5-year Milestone – Ann Brown, Organist

It was November 28, 2011, when Ann began her tenure as St. Paul's organist and pianist. She has shared her organ and piano talent in chapels or churches around the world—there were many moves in the Browns' Air Force career. In her spare time, Ann loves to read, play tennis, do Bible study, go for walks, visit with friends, and play the piano. She and Tex have 3 children and 8 grandchildren providing them blessings beyond measure. Ann says "I feel very fortunate to be able to praise God by playing the instruments I love, in a church I love, and for people I love! My heart swells when the congregation is really singing out and I am able to be a part of that."

Thank you, Ann, for five wonderful years of blessing us through your musical ability.

Did you know...

- You can find Pastor Paul's daily devotion.
- You can find the church calendar.
- You can find giving options.
- You can find past epistles.
- You can find what we believe & teach.
- You can find Our Mission, Vision & Priorities.
- You can find who our Ministry Partners are.
- You can find out ways to serve in our congregation, community, and in God's world.
- You can find out about upcoming events.
- You can sign up to be an Acolyte.
- You can find our Wedding, Funeral and Memorial Service Policies.

You can find ALL this and MORE!!!

By going to our website www.nbstpaul.org

You can also visit our Facebook page, follow us on twitter and Instagram.



Harold Voges was recognized and thanked by Fred Terry, Lay Minister Leader, during September 25's worship services which were the last after Harold's many years on the lay ministry team. THANK YOU Harold!



*The Nursery is available on Sunday mornings from
7:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for children under 5 years old.
Children 3 years and older are encouraged to attend Sunday school
during the Sunday School hour.*



Christmas Poinsettias

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The Sanctuary will be arrayed with beautiful red poinsettias for Christmas. The sale of plants will help our youth program. Each plant costs \$10.00. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, November 20, 2016. You may take these plants home after Christmas Eve services.

Please return forms and money to the Church Office. (Checks payable to SPLC and in the memo state poinsettias.)

I would like to order _____ number of **red** plants in

Memory of: _____

I would like to order _____ number of **red** plants in

Honor of: _____



NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

November 2016 Youth Calendar

Wed. Nov. 2	6:15pm – Mid. Sch. Lesson – “Stealing” 6:15pm – High Sch. - will travel to Kirkwood 6:15 pm – Seniors AND parents - lesson 1 “Grad. Step. Stone” Poinsettia Fund raiser begins	Room 225(with parents attending) Room 219 Room TBD
Wed. Nov. 9	6:15pm – Mid. Sch. Lesson – “False Witness” 6:15pm – High Sch. Lesson	Room 225 Youth Room
Wed. Nov. 16	6:15pm – Mid. Sch. Lesson – “Coveting” 6:15pm – High Sch. - will travel to Kirkwood	Room 225 Room 219
Sun., Nov. 20	FELLOWSHIP EVENT – Enchanted Rock – Depart after Congreg. Meet. – details to come Poinsettia Fund raiser ends - all forms and money is due	
Wed. Nov. 23	SERVICE PROJECT - COMMUNITY WIDE THANKSGIVING DINNER	
Thurs. Nov. 24	THANKSGIVING DAY	
Wed. Nov. 30	6:30pm ADVENT SERVICE 7:15pm Small Groups	

Thank you
from Youth and Family Board

The Youth and Family Board want to thank everyone for their support of the service projects held in Sept. and Oct.

Sept. Project – School Supply Drive

The school supply drive in Sept was a huge success! The teachers at Trinity Charter School were overwhelmed by the amount of supplies donated. They were very grateful for our generous support. Thank you for donating!

Oct. Service Project – Homemade Pies for Firefighters

The homemade pies are always a blessing to the firefighters. It is so wonderful to have so many people in our congregation take time to bake delicious desserts for our first responders. The firefighters are always grateful and look forward to this night each year. It is nice to know their service to the community is appreciated. The youth enjoy this service project as well because the firefighters allow them to explore the fire station, fire trucks, brush trucks and other fire equipment. So the youth receive a little education while having fun. Afterwards they come back to church and enjoy pie as well (if enough pies were donated). Thank you for your support of this community service project.

Music Ministry - Jody Noblett Director of Music & Creative Arts

- Children:** Cherub Choir (3yrs - 2nd Gr.) 10:10 a.m. Sunday - Jody Noblett
Alleluia Choir (3rd - 6thGr.) 9:15 a.m. Sunday - Jody Noblett
- Youth:** Mimes practice as needed - Diana Clayburne
Puppets practice as needed - Azeneth Knudson
- Adults:** Covenant Band 6:00 p.m. Wednesday - Jody Noblett
Sanctuary Choir 7:00 p.m. Wednesday - Jody Noblett



Ministry Partners

Quilters - Meet every Tuesday 9:00 a.m. in Rm. 212 to sew quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Contact Betty Pankau

Prayer Blankets - Meet as needed to crochet prayer blankets for the sick. Contact Dorothy Nehring

Sunshine Ministry - Make gifts and take them to our shut-ins. Contact Jeannie Anderson

Bereavement Ministry - Meet as needed to provide receptions for funeral/memorial services. Contact Carol Schorn

Eucharistic Ministry - Give communion to shut-ins monthly. Contact Carolyn Zunker

Hospital Visitors Ministry - Visit members in the hospital. Contact Ola Fischer

Use Your Car Ministry - Good Neighbors that drive others to church or hospital. Contact Benno Engel

Prayer Ministry - Contact Carolyn Zunker **Friday Morning Prayer** - Contact Roylene Haggard or Gloria Jung

Kitchen Angels - Provide meals as needed for those coming home from the hospital. Contact Emily Harborth

Master Craftsmen - All men of St. Paul - First Wednesday, 7:30 am. Contact Harold Voges

Fellowship Ministry

Breaking Bread Groups - meet monthly in people's homes. Contact Dotty Collins

Bridge Friends - meet the 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 1:30p.m. at New Braunfels Senior Citizens Center. Contact Karen Krieg

Mah Jongg Friends - meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 1:30 Contact Shirley Stamets at 620-1731 for location.

Out to Eat Friends - meet on the 2nd Friday at 5:00 p.m. Contact Sue & Larry Schwab

Domino Friends - meet the 4th Saturday at 6:00 p.m. Contact Janice & Larry Phillips



Stacy Garcia, Bookkeeper/Controller

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2016 Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 09 SEPTEMBER SUMMARY

Description	2015 Actual	2016 Budget	2016 Actual September	2016 Budget YTD	2016 Actual YTD	Over/(Under) Budget
Administrative and Office	\$ 37,986.67	\$ 39,444.00	\$ 2,655.02	\$ 29,154.25	\$ 27,524.16	\$ (1,630.09)
Christian Education	\$ 10,310.97	\$ 12,720.00	\$ 193.54	\$ 10,618.32	\$ 4,553.02	\$ (6,065.30)
Congregational Life	\$ 13,694.70	\$ 17,600.00	\$ 315.05	\$ 10,962.50	\$ 6,559.51	\$ (4,402.99)
Evangelism	\$ 5,689.67	\$ 3,800.00	\$ -	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 926.90	\$ (1,823.10)
* Finance Committee	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 8,333.33	\$ 75,000.01	\$ 74,999.97	\$ (0.04)
Personnel	\$ 431,689.90	\$ 504,338.00	\$ 41,442.81	\$ 383,462.52	\$ 364,112.25	\$ (19,350.27)
** Preschool (expenses only - see income below)	\$ 481,931.58	\$ 501,913.17	\$ 42,079.14	\$ 375,699.72	\$ 389,685.47	\$ 13,985.75
Property	\$ 100,250.63	\$ 113,301.00	\$ 9,058.37	\$ 86,106.72	\$ 62,657.52	\$ (23,449.20)
Public Relations	\$ 6,483.12	\$ 6,860.00	\$ 579.00	\$ 5,295.00	\$ 5,379.00	\$ 84.00
*** Stewardship	\$ 83,251.27	\$ 91,626.00	\$ 5,277.45	\$ 68,719.50	\$ 52,344.49	\$ (16,375.01)
Worship	\$ 11,747.34	\$ 15,930.00	\$ 1,006.32	\$ 11,385.00	\$ 8,895.46	\$ (2,489.54)
Youth & Family	\$ 1,661.08	\$ 10,640.00	\$ 26.77	\$ 6,329.99	\$ 10,321.01	\$ 3,991.02
SPENDING TOTALS	\$ 1,284,696.93	\$ 1,418,172.17	\$ 110,966.80	\$ 1,065,483.53	\$ 1,007,958.76	\$ (57,524.77)
General Offerings	\$ 831,262.88	\$ 915,017.17	\$ 58,183.72	\$ 686,262.88	\$ 571,475.25	\$ (114,787.63)
Preschool Income	\$ 544,039.74	\$ 503,155.00	\$ 41,596.84	\$ 378,795.00	\$ 401,935.19	\$ 23,140.19
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,375,302.62	\$ 1,418,172.17	\$ 99,780.56	\$ 1,065,057.88	\$ 973,410.44	
NET MINISTRY PROCEEDS	\$ 90,605.69		\$ (11,186.24)		\$ (34,548.32)	

NOTES:

* Finance Committee expenses are only a simulation of anticipated building-note payments post repair/renovation. These "simulated expenses" are shown as a re-categorization of undesignated funds to designated funds on the Statement of Position and Designated Fund Summary.

** The Preschool line item only reports expenses, not net proceeds for the ministry area. For net proceeds, subtract Preschool expenses from Preschool income.

*** Stewardship expenses are benevolence based on a percentage of general offerings each month.

Congregation at Study

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Sunday Morning - 9:15 am

Birth through 12th Grade

The Nursery through 5th grade will be studying the Spark Activate Faith Series. The curriculum follows the lectionary calendar.

Nursery Children - led by Cassie Mueller, meet in the Butterfly Room.

3 years – 4 years - led by Nancy Schlather and Kristin Haas, meet in the Monkey Room.

5 years – Kindergarten - led by Azeneth Knudson and Cheryl Koepp, meet in the Gecko Room.

1st Graders – 2nd Graders - led by Tracy Granado, meet in Room 208.

3rd Graders – 4th Graders - led by Jill Kreusler and Kristee Wirebaugh, meet in Room 204.

5th Graders - led by Kelly King, meet in Room 203.

The 6th Grade through 12th will be studying “The Gospel Project”.

It is a three year program that starts with Genesis and goes to Revelation.

6th Graders - meet in Room 223.

7th Graders - 8th Graders - led by Joe Wilson, meet in Room 224.

9th Graders - 12th Graders - led by Pastor Chip Reynolds & Steve Chapman, meet in the Youth Room upstairs.

Nursery Available in the Butterfly Room from 7:45 – 11:45



Adult Classes

Men’s Bible Study, led by Tex Brown, is taking books of the Bible and going through them one chapter at a time. They meet downstairs in the Zebra Classroom.

Study of the Lectionary, led by Teeta Bahr, is based on the study of the weekly texts. This class is open to all and meets downstairs in the Sacristy.

Study of God’s Word, led by Lanelle Rudolph, is on a study journey from Genesis to Revelation. This multi-generational group meets in the Chapel.

Women’s Bible Study, led by Vicki Holmig, is studying a nine session video-driven study on 1st Peter called, “A Living Hope in Christ”. They share the leader’s role and meet upstairs in Room 201.

Mary and Martha Class, led by Sharon Schroeder, is a group of women that meet together to study and provide friendship and support. Studying “That the World May Know” through mid November, then we will start a Max Lucado video “Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born, Hope is Here.” They meet upstairs in Room 220.

Men’s Class, led by Brian Taylor, is working through a book titled, Why Men Hate Going to Church. Their hope is to help the young men, husbands, and fathers see the benefits of becoming involved at church. They meet upstairs in Room 210.

Parents of Toddlers Class, led by Becky and Stu Toeppich, studies baby/toddler/kid situations that come up during the week. They learn and discuss with other parents living the same situations and meet in the Caterpillar Room beside the Nursery.

Partners in Faith, led by David and Liz Doss, studying Romans in Room 202.



Weekdays

Tuesdays 6:30 – 8:00

Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University began September 13th, led by Phil Moore, is a 9 week course costing \$93 per couple. It will meet in Rooms 225 – 226. To register go to <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1025134>

Family Night Wednesdays 6:15 – 8:00

Kindergarten – 5th Graders - CLIMB, led by Tracy Granado, Kelly King, Kay Magness, and Isaiah Granado. The theme is “Treasure Seekers” where kids discover who God is. They will be in Rooms 203, 204, & 209.

6th, 7th, and 8th Graders - led by Pastor Chip Reynolds, will be in Confirmation. They will be learning about the Ten Commandments. They will meet in Rooms 225 & 226.

9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th - They will meet in the Youth Room.

Bible Study for Women - led by Ola Fischer, will view and discuss a Beth Moore video Bible Study entitled “Children of the Day”, a on 1st & 2nd Thessalonians. They will meet in Room 201.

Mens Study - The Spiritual Man by Watchman Nee. They meet in room 210.

Thursdays 6:30 – 8:00

Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University began September 15th, led by Sandy Owens, is a 9 week course costing \$93 per couple. It will meet in Rooms 225 – 226. To register go to <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1025135>

Monthly

Third Thursday of the Month

SPICE - led by Lanelle Rudolph in her home at 6:00 p.m., is a women’s group that studies a different book of the Bible each year from the God’s Word for Today Series. They are studying 1st & 2nd Kings this year.

Board Reports

Board of Christian Ed - Sue Schwab - 830-237-0749

Did not meet in October.

Board of Congregational Life - Emily Harborth - 830-609-7912

Woow was a beautiful event! Thank you all that attended and those that worked so hard to make it happen!

Board of Evangelism – Paul Henfey - 210-383-6101

Old Business:

Discussed the following: Momentum - Financial Peace University, Breaking Bread Report/Update, New Disciple Class and Celebration Meal and Worship Outside the Walls Report.

New Business:

Discussed the following: 2017 Budget Review, Men's Ministry Guest, 2016 Angel Tree Ministry and Salvation Army Bell Ringing Campaign and Pre-school/Sunday school Advent gifts.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 11/15/16 at 7:00 p.m. Location TBD.

Board of Personnel- Chip Franck - 830-214-0366

The Personnel Board's activities continue to focus on resolving issues associated with the Compliance Review, 2017 budget, and 2016 personnel assessments.

Board of Youth and Family – Alison Setser - 210-722-8065

Old Business:

- Recap of school supply drive & 9th grade retreat.
- Discussed Pies for firefighters, community Thanksgiving Dinner, trash pickup, Enchanted Rock, Adopt-A-Resident at Kirkwood.

New Business:

- Discussed Faith stamen Banquet, Confirmation Sunday, Poinsettia fundraiser, Mission New Braunfels for summer 2017, Graduate Stepping Stone, Wednesdays during Advent.

Board of Preschool - Nancy Schlather - 830-609-8344

Board of Property - Danny Zunker - 830-221-7673

Board of Public Relations - Phil Moore - 830-832-6067

Board of Stewardship – Arlen Pietsch- 830-625-2152

Board of Worship – Rod Mueller - 830-606-4097

Memorial Committee Report

Memorials during the month of September 2016 were given in memory of the following people:

Shannon Doss, Roy and Teresa Duelm, Johnny Friesenhahn, Dennis Harborth, Marilyn Heise Helmke, Terry Jentsch Sharon Kinshemer, Irene Moehrig, Billie Rosa, and Fred Stoll.

There were no purchases made by the committee this month.



KITCHEN ANGELS MINISTRY

Kitchen Angels Ministry needs your help! Please consider joining this service group that provides meals for people in our congregation coming home from the hospital. Contact Emily Harborth at (830) 609-7912 for more information.

We videotape and photograph during worship services and church events. These images may be released online, in video or photo format, or used in publications. If anyone should object, please call the church office at 830-625-9191.



LCMC now has a *free* mobile app that makes it easy to access videos and podcasts, receive news updates, and stay connected with other people throughout the association.

With the LCMC mobile friendly web player, you can catch live events, stream videos and podcasts, and even play content on your TV screen using Apple TV or Google Chromecast.

You can also use the app to access calendars, register online for events, and view digital versions of event programs and handouts.

The built in blog reader makes it easy to stay up-to-date on recent news and announcements, and app users can also sign up to receive occasional notifications, so you'll never miss out on an important announcement or deadline again.

You'll also have easy access to LCMC directories and an LCMC congregation search feature, so you can contact people or find nearby congregations even when you're on the go. The LCMC app is now available at the APP STORE of copy and paste the following link for instructions <http://lcmc.net/download-our-app>

Contact Judy Henfey at phenfey@gmail.com with questions.

LCMC has a new logo! The red represents the blood of Christ covering the darkness of the world.



Dear St. Paul Family,

I had the opportunity to attend this year's LCMC Annual Gathering on 10/02/16 to 10/05/16 in Denver, Colorado as a delegate from our church. This year's theme was "*Back to the Future-1st Century Principles for the 21st Century.*" Sean Kelly, LCMC Board of Trustees, Chair best explained the theme... "There's a secular epigram that states: *The more things change; the more things stay the same.* This applies to our Christian witness to the world - the more the world changes around us the more it needs what Christ revealed to us through His death and resurrection. Let's put it another way: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever!" (Hebrews 13:8)." Oh how true!

One speaker that impacted me was Dr. Ed Stetzer who holds the Billy Graham Distinguished Chair for Church, Mission, and Evangelism at Wheaton College. His lecture was titled "The Commissions of Jesus and Engaging all People." We learned that we are sent (John 20: 19-21) to all different kinds of people (Matthew 28:18-20) with a message (Luke 24:46-48) and are empowered by the Spirit (Acts 1:6-8). This means that our function as a Christian is to join Jesus in the mission to make disciples and to change lives. We need to live an unashamed Gospel-based life so that others see Christ and His love through us.

On the second evening, I was blessed to participate in a service project with Lutheran World Relief. We were able to assemble and donate 8,228 personal care kits to those whose lives have been affected by natural disasters and to people who are living in poverty around the world. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship and service with other LCMC friends from all over the United States!

Hearing the messages shared at the gathering through break-out sessions, worship and fellowship reinforced our church's **MVP's**:

Mission: Go and make disciples.

Vision: We will be a congregation that engages people to help families follow Jesus.

Priorities: Promote a culture of family supporting home prayer and bible study with parents as key teachers... increase weekly worship...maintain trust and confide in leadership...and raise up the next generation of leaders.

I want to thank you all again for allowing me to represent St. Paul! I love and cherish you all. If you have any questions or would like to learn how to become involved in Kingdom work within our own congregation and local community, please contact me at pjhenfey@att.net.

Love your sister-in-Christ,

Judy Henfey

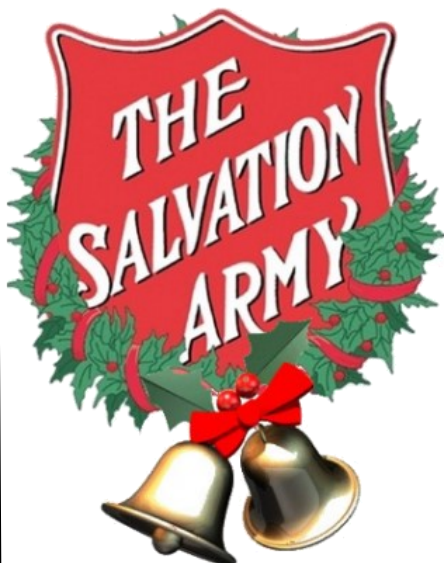
Member of St. Paul and the LCMC Texas District



CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT ST. MARTIN Page 14

4:00 PM ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

“Come and Worship, Come and Worship, Worship Christ our newborn King”. The refrain from this great hymn tells the why of our Advent Season. Come and join us! We are having the worship at 4:00 PM in order that families can come and sing and worship and still be home in time for supper, family prayers and early bedtime for work and school the next day. Pastors Paul and Chip will lead the service and we will fill the afternoon with a cappella singing featuring our wonderful Lutheran voices. We intend to have teens and preteens helping in the worship. It will be a great time! More to come in the December Epistle.



Who can bell ring? Anyone!

This year St. Paul is scheduled to ring at Hobby Lobby on December 15, 17, 19, and 20th starting at 10:00am to 6:00pm. Sign up sheets are available in the narthex. For questions, please contact Carolyn Zunker in the church office at (830) 625-9191 or (830) 237-6367 during normal business hours or Judy Henfey at (210) 383-6102 after 5:00 p.m.



Coming soon you will have an opportunity to help children & seniors have a Merry Christmas!

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

December 4, 2016

St. Paul Lutheran Church Sanctuary

Ladies, please join us on Sunday, Dec. 4th @ 6:30 p.m. Due to construction, it is the 2nd week of Advent this year. The “plan” is to begin with light finger foods in the NEW lobby for fellowship. Then we will move to the sanctuary for carols, a lesson, and learn about the history of the Christmas tree and Chrismons. What a great way to start your season in preparation for the Celebration of Christ’s birth!!!

Again, this year, we recommend you bring a donation for Options for Life. They were very appreciative last year. Their wish list includes: Diapers (size 5), Baby Wipes, Crib Sheets (new for layettes), New Clothes (0-6 months), and monetary donations.

The committee encourages you to bring a friend...there will be plenty of room. Let’s “Go out and make disciples”!

November 2016



Breaking Bread Together



It's not too late to join in the fun of Breaking Bread!!!

Here's how it works: Even though we started in August, you can still join the fun. Host homes (we'll define the groups) will offer the main dish and guests (+ kids) will bring side dishes to break bread together. For approximately an hour and a half, we'll do two of our favorite things--eat and talk--to get better acquainted. We'll meet through December with the same group. In January we'll pause for the church-wide Dave Ramsey Peace University then regroup and start again in March. We pray you'll take this opportunity to connect with your church family and build new, lasting relationships. Each group governs itself on meeting dates, host homes and menu. It's all about fellowship!

Get better acquainted with your fellow treasures in earthly vessels by contacting Dotty Collins at 830-629-5129, Dotty@postofficerealty.com, or call the church office.



Our vision as a congregation is to engage people in order to help more families follow Jesus. Faithful leaders and prayer are essential to fulfill this vision. The Bible is clear: every believer is called to serve and receives at least one spiritual gift. Please pray with us and for us in your homes. We will have our next prayer service on Tuesday November 15 at 5:30pm - 6:00pm.

Requests/guidance for prayer petitions:

General petitions (needs and thanksgivings)

Specific petitions for the Lord to raise up leaders who are:

...Spiritually mature (I Corinthians 2:6-10; 14:20; Ephesians 4:11-15; Philippians 3:14-17; Colossians 1:27-29; 4:12; Hebrews 5:14)

...Committed to expansion of God's kingdom, making disciples (not just focused on maintaining our congregation: Acts 14:27, Matt. 6:33; 10:7; Mark 10:15; Acts 8:12, 19:8; Romans 14:17, I Thess 2: 12)

...Committed to our mission of making disciples and our vision to be a congregation that engages people to help families follow Jesus (Matt.9: 37-38; 28: 19-20; Mark 16:15-16, Luke. 22:49; Acts 1:1,2,7; 14: 21; Proverbs 29.18) ...and committed to our priorities:

Promoting home Bible reading with parents as key teachers (Eph 6.4)

Increasing weekly worship participation (Exodus 20.8-9; I Timothy 4.13)

Maintaining trust & confidence in leadership (I Timothy 3.1-7)



November 2016 Service Calendar

		Sun., Nov. 6	Sun., Nov. 13	Sun., Nov. 20	Wed., Nov. 23 6:30pm	Sun., Nov. 27	Wed., Nov. 30 6:30pm
Altar Guild Vicki Hollmig		Diana Clayburne					
Lay Minister Fred Terry		BJ Hageman Jr.	Chris Markulin	Paul Finley	BJ Hageman Jr.	Rod Mueller	Rod Mueller
Scripture Readers Margaret Warncke	8:00	Benno Engel	Ken Wunderlich	Mary Wunderlich	Paul Henfey	Erna Dietert	St. Paul Youth
	10:30	Eric Schmidt	Benno Engel	Sue Schwab		Kathy Lamon	
Ushers Ed Berich	8:00	Team 10 Chuck Knudson	Team 12 Ed Berich	Team 12 Ed Berich		Team 14 Reno Engel	Team 14 Reno Engel
	10:30	Team 9 Joe Setser	Team 11 Ralph Behrends	Team 11 Ralph Behrend		Team 13 Bob Warnecke	
Acolytes www.SignUp	8:00	Matthew Koehler	Alize Martinez	TBD	TBD	Matthew Koehler	TBD
	10:30	Josiah Granado	Sierra Schwab	Kathryn Bielke		TBD	
Audio Tech Greg Schlather	8:00	Paul Luckemeyer	Mark Sohn	David Wagner	Rod Mueller	Joe Clayburne	Rod Mueller
Visual Tech Greg Schlather	8:00	Greg Schlather	Rod Mueller	Greg Schlather	Rod Mueller	Joe Clayburne	Rod Mueller
	10:30	Greg Schlather	Rod Mueller	Rodger Johnson		Joe Clayburne	
Communion Preparers Pixie Hageman	8:00	Patty MacDonald & Sandra Pfluger		Jerome & Virginia Vetter			
	10:30	Marj Polay & Peri Ikels		Malcolm & Ola Fischer			
Communion Servers Pixie Hageman	8:00	Joh & Kay Magness		Pat & Kathy Quade			
	10:30	Rodger & Barbara Johnson		Jill & Korvan Kreusler			
Greeters Liz Doss	8:00	Phil & Kim Moore	John & Ruth Suddarth	Ken & Mary Wunderlich		Shirley Wilson & Donna Kiser	St. Paul Youth
	10:30	Gary & M'Lissa Steel	Carol Schorn & Roxane Duelm	Brian & Dotty Collins		Jason & Rhonda Giesen	
Friendly Visitors Ann Stollewerk		Chuck & Azeneth Knudson	Craig & Vicki Hollmig			Mark & Mindi Wing	
Pew Pals Tracy Granado		Hildy Slocum Team	Willa Faulkner Team	Dina Dornburg		Dale & Julie Goos	
Hospital Visitors Ola Fischer		Dotty Collins & Kathy Lamon	Nancy Becker & M'Lissa Steel	Malcolm & Ola Fischer		Pat & Kathy Quade	

November 2016

*****Sundays*****			
8:00am Traditional Service	9:30am Covenant Choir		
9:15am Sunday School	& Band		
Alleluia Choir	10:00am Cherub Choir		
	10:30am Informal Service		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00am Quilters 9:00am MemorialComm 6:00pm Christian Ed 6:30pm FPU	2 7:30am Mastercraftsmen 6:15pm Family Night 6:30pm Blessing Our Graduate 7:00pm Choir	3 6:00pm Congregational Life 6:30pm FPU	4 7:00am Prayer Group	5 10:30am Raising a Healthy Baby
6 COMMUNION **See Above** 8:00am (only) Gemischer Chor Harmonie	7 1:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Preschool Bd 6:30 pm Youth & Family	8 9:00am Quilters 6:30pm Property 6:30pm FPU	9 2:00pm Construction Pro 3:00pm Kirkwood Devot 5:30pm Building Comm 6:15pm Family Night 7:00pm Choir	10 5:30pm Worship Bd 6:30pm FPU	11 7:00am Prayer Group 5:00pm Eat Out Friends	12
13 **See Above** 10:30am (only) NB Village Brass Band	14 1:30pm Staff Meeting 5:00pm Personnel Bd 6:30 pm Public Relations Bd	15 9:00am Quilters 4:00pm Executive Com 5:30pm Prayer Service 6:30pm FPU 7:00pm Evangelism	16 3:00pm Eden Devotions 6:15pm Family Night 7:00pm Choir	17 10:00pm Crocheters 6:00pm Spice	18 7:00am Prayer Group	19
20 COMMUNION **See Above** 11:30pm Congregational Meeting	21 1:30pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting	22 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Stewardship Bd	23 7:00am Prayer Group 6:15pm Climb 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve 7:00pm Choir	24 HAPPY THANKSGIVING Offices Closed	25 Offices Closed	26
27 **See Above**	28 1:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Public Relations Bd	29 9:00am Quilters	30 6:15pm Climb 6:30pm Advent Service 7:00pm Choir 7:15pm Youth Small Group			

Senior Pastor - Rev. Paul Owens - pastorpaul@nbstpaul.org
Pastor - Rev. Charles "Chip" Reynolds - pastorchip@nbstpaul.org
Church Administrator - Lanelle Rudolph - lanelle@nbstpaul.org
Administrative Assistant - Jennifer Burrows - jennifer@nbstpaul.org
Administrative Assistant - Carolyn Zunker - carolyn@nbstpaul.org
Bookkeeper/Controller - Stacy Garcia - stacy@nbstpaul.org
Director of Music & Creative Arts - Jody Noblett - jody@nbstpaul.org
Director of the Preschool - Karisha Neely - karisha@nbstpaul.org
Maintenance - Jason Crofford
Organist - Ann Brown

CHURCH OFFICE (830) 625-9191
PRESCHOOL (830) 625-2044
FAX (830) 620-7715
www.nbstpaul.org



November 2016



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 weekly worship
- * Maintain trust & confidence in leadership
- * Raise up the next generation of leaders



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