



## *Paul Owens, Senior Pastor*

### God's Great Faithfulness

“Some ages are lukewarm and complacent, and then it is our business to soothe them yet faster asleep. Other ages, of which the present is one, are unbalanced and prone to faction, and it is our business to inflame them.” Thus, the devil advises his apprentice in chapter seven of C.S. Lewis’ classic “The Screwtape Letters.”

Dear Lord, thank you for coming for us in Christ, to redeem us from ourselves; to be our refuge and our fortress. In this present age, the devil seeks to inflame us and separate us from each other physically and emotionally; even worse, he seeks to separate us from You... to gradually edge us on a downward slope away from you and away from the neighbors you give us. He starts on Sunday morning and works his subtle, deadly craft then all week. So, I pray with the psalmist:

Cover us with your pinions,  
and under your wings we will find refuge;  
your faithfulness is our shield and buckler.  
<sup>5</sup> We will not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
<sup>6</sup> nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

For you, O Christ, are the refuge from my sin, the fortress for daily life, the one in whom I trust. So draw us to you, O Lord, and give me afresh to my neighbor. In Jesus’ name I pray, amen.



## *David Doss, Interim President*

For those of you that don’t know me, let me give you a little background. My wife, Liz, and I first became members of St. Paul in 1988. We came to New Braunfels the year before when we were married. I was working in San Antonio and she was finishing her education degree in San Marcos. Both of our children, Lindsey and Payton, were born and baptized while we were living here. In 1994, I took a job that led us to the Dallas area and then to Missouri, but we always maintained our many friendships and connections we’d made here. In 2003, we returned to New Braunfels. I can remember coming back to St. Paul that first week we returned. I still get emotional thinking how nice it felt to “be home.” It is truly a blessing to be in New Braunfels and at St. Paul.

We are living in extraordinary times. The world, country, state, county, and city need The Church more than ever. Praise the Lord he has put each of us here, in this place to do His Work. Let’s continue to pray, read the Bible, and open our hearts and minds to be led by the Holy Spirit.

As of this writing, July 1 we will no longer require an RSVP to attend either worship service. We will also welcome back those Sunday morning 9:30 a.m. Bible study hour groups whom wish to resume. Please check with your group leader. Face masks will still be required until you reach a place where social distancing can occur. We will still be taking temps and requiring all to use the sanitizing station. We will also make sure the Preschool area is not used by anyone other than the Preschool. We will continue to live stream services over platforms on the internet. Other small groups will be welcomed to meet during the week, permitting space and social distancing is available. If you are sick, immunocompromised, or don’t feel comfortable being out, please stay home until you do feel it is safe enough for you to come back to the facility.

We humans are social beings and we Christians are called to be in fellowship. In this time there are many who are feeling lonely and isolated. Let it be our ministry to reach out to each other and spread the Love of Jesus Christ!!

*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



### Chip Reynolds, Pastor

I've lost my freedom.

Long story short, I have been in isolation/quarantine for almost 4 weeks now. Nothing I did other than be at the wrong places at the wrong times. Thanks to tricky flight schedules and COVID, I have gotten caught on the tail end of things and have been stuck.

Yes, it has been horrible. A two week trip has turned into a month and a half of not being very effective. And I have absolutely hated it.

But it has been interesting to read the letter to the Romans and look at how he saw captivity:

*Romans 6:22 But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life.*

I got it this week. My frustration level has been through the roof because I have had nothing to do. I have saved the world a couple of times on my computer game but person-to-person interaction has been limited to the two other guys that are in the same boat I am in. I have simply wanted to break free...but for what? To do that which I am called to do.

That's it. What I'm called to do.

Scripture says it. I should want to be free from sin. Not bound by the desire of the world. Why? So I can live, bound to Christ, allowing me to be sanctified. It is a commitment to be free. It is a commitment to be locked up in the grace of Jesus and working toward what He has for me. And that should be my goal. That should be all our goals. To be refined in our faith. To be transformed into what He wants us to be. That is the process that we should be longing for because it is what our spirit knew God had in store for us when the bonds of sin were broken.

I know that I am (and will continue to be) a work in progress. I am having to continually learn how to live in the freedom of bondage to Christ. Read that a couple of times and make it make sense. But that is exactly it. We are bound to Christ. And He has plans for us that are born in justification and refined in sanctification. Two big words to say, He saved you and He is working on you. Be free in that and grow, learn and serve always.

In His arms,

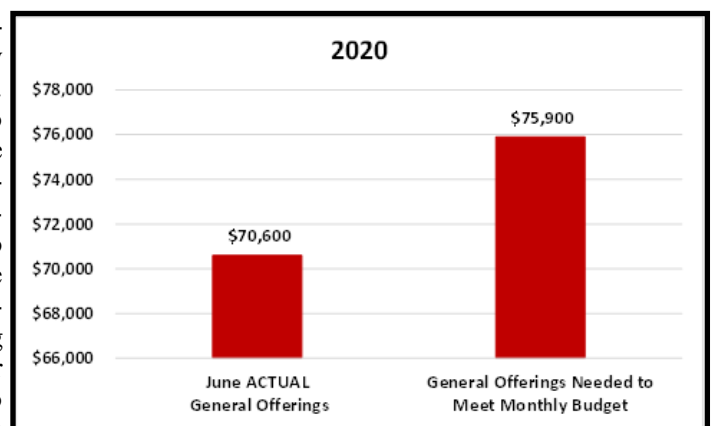
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### Susan Montgomery, Treasurer

Howdy, Friends! Just a gentle reminder to continue to prayerfully consider your monetary gifts to St. Paul Lutheran Church as we go through the summer months. We are all dealing with the continued challenges of the pandemic, but it is important that we continue to strive to

do God's work through it all. Our general offerings are crucial to that effort and what we use to meet the operating expenses of the church. Historically, offering amounts tend to fall off during the busy summer months. Your continued generosity allows St. Paul to continue to reach outside our walls to spread God's word. If you are still joining us online, there are still several ways to give . . . online through the St. Paul Lutheran Church, New Braunfels website, by mailing a check to the church or by dropping your gift off at the church office. All are welcome. Thank you so much for your continued prayer, kindness and generosity.



## CHANGES for Rocky Railway VBS

NOW JULY 27-29



Out of an abundance of caution, the F3 Children's Board has decided to make significant changes to Rocky Railway VBS. In an effort to ensure the health and safety of both participants and volunteers, VBS will be open to children in 2nd-5th grade and moved to Slumber Falls to participate in outdoor activities. This new program format is scheduled for July 27-29. Alternative VBS programming will be made available to younger children and families unable to participate in VBS at Slumber Falls. Although it was tough arriving at such a decision about two programs that we all love, we are excited about the opportunity to share the joy of Slumber Falls with more children and offer a chance for families to enjoy VBS together in a new and exciting way. Stay tuned for additional details and ways to be involved as a volunteer, donor or participant. If you have any questions or still need help registering for VBS, contact Kimberly Wunderlich at [kimberly@nbstpaul.org](mailto:kimberly@nbstpaul.org) or the church office.

## Returning Small Group Bible Studies and Sunday School Classes

At their June meeting, Council voted to allow small groups and Bible studies to resume meeting in person on their regular schedule beginning July 1st. If you feel comfortable returning, please enter through the Lobby prior to proceeding to your classroom to have your temperature taken and wash or sanitize your hands. Please be aware that some classes may resume and others may not, so contact your group leader for details. Also, efforts to ensure social distancing have required that some classes relocate temporarily. Please consult the list below for classes scheduled to meet and their location. If your group isn't yet meeting in person, but you are interested in doing so, feel free to visit a class from the list below.

**Partners In Faith (PIF) – Couples Group Bible Study --- Chapel**  
**Men's Bible Study --- Men's Group --- Room 212**  
**The Librarians --- Men's Group --- Room 205**  
**ANA --- Women's Group --- Room 216**  
**Youth --- Middle School & High School --- Room 201**



## Mission New Braunfels

July 8-9, 2020

St. Paul Youth will be involved serving our community through Mission New Braunfels on July 8-9. They will be working at The Crisis Center of Comal County which serves women, children and men of all ages by providing crisis assistance, counseling, shelter and advocacy for those in crisis. Our group will be helping the center set-up their homeless shelter. For more information on how to participate or volunteer, contact Lynn Lear at [llear@att.net](mailto:llear@att.net). Stay tuned for additional ways to get involved in supporting Mission New Braunfels and The Crisis Center of Comal County.

## Women's Event

August 15  
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Attention ladies! Are you sick of staying at home and missing your friends? Come to a women's event/lunch on August 15th. Rest, recharge and renew with Kristin Kunoff as speaker. Boxed lunches will be provided. All social distancing protocols will be followed. Childcare provided and lunch available for children. There will be limited seating available, deadline to register is August 10th. Registration fee is \$15. Register online at: [www.nbstpaul.org/summer-retreat](http://www.nbstpaul.org/summer-retreat).

## Raising a Healthy Baby

August 5, 12, and 19  
6:30-7:30 p.m.



Parents of infants are invited to join us for the Raising a Healthy Baby Faith Stepping Stone on Wednesdays, August 5, 12, and 19 at 6:30-7:30 p.m. This three session workshop will focus on the physical, emotional and spiritual development of your baby, as well as prepare your family for infant baptism. Child care will be available. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Kimberly Wunderlich at [kimberly@nbstpaul.org](mailto:kimberly@nbstpaul.org).

**July 2020**

Senior Pastor - Rev. Paul Owens - [pastorpaul@nbstpaul.org](mailto:pastorpaul@nbstpaul.org)

Pastor - Rev. Chip Reynolds - currently deployed until November 2020

Executive Director of Operations & Preschool - Michelle Rivera - [michelle@nbstpaul.org](mailto:michelle@nbstpaul.org)

Communications Coordinator - Jennifer Burrows - [jennifer@nbstpaul.org](mailto:jennifer@nbstpaul.org)

Bookkeeper/Controller - Stacy Garcia - [stacy@nbstpaul.org](mailto:stacy@nbstpaul.org)

Director of Music & Creative Arts - Jody Noblett - [jody@nbstpaul.org](mailto:jody@nbstpaul.org)

F3 Ministry Manager - Kimberly Wunderlich - [Kimberly@nbstpaul.org](mailto:Kimberly@nbstpaul.org)

Organist - Ann Brown - [annb003@aol.com](mailto:annb003@aol.com)

Staff - Alison Setser - [alison@nbstpaul.org](mailto:alison@nbstpaul.org)

Staff - Jo Schomberg - [jo@nbstpaul.org](mailto:jo@nbstpaul.org)

Multi-Media Staff - Lorrie Cook - [lorrie@nbstpaul.org](mailto:lorrie@nbstpaul.org)

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PRESCHOOL (830) 625-2044

FAX (830) 620-7715



[www.nbstpaul.org](http://www.nbstpaul.org)

**Sunday morning worship at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.**

**9:15 a.m. Bible Study Hour**

**We are continuing to live stream both services on our website, Face Book and YouTube.**



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NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

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