

Paul Owens, Senior Pastor



Church signs...

There are plenty of church signs: humorous ones, bad ones, engaging ones. We have one on Santa Clara Avenue. Good, bad or otherwise, church signs function like creeds, confessions of belief.

But the most numerous and impactful church signs are actually you and I. We are actually walking, talking church signs; living, breathing confessions of Jesus Christ. What the world, our neighbors, and especially our own families know and believe about Jesus is directly impacted by our confession of faith, or lack thereof. One day in Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asked his disciples "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" More pointedly he then asked, "Who do you say that I am?" (Matt 16:13,15).

Jesus Christ comes and brings his Holy Spirit along to us so that we might have faith in him alone and confess him as our Lord and Savior. Our Lent sermon series (Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings) will focus on **the Trinity and Me**. Hearing from our Lord for the sake of our faith just might help you and me be decent, good-humored church signs. Let's hope so.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Paul

Tex Brown, President



Wow, what a great month we just had in February. Starting with an awesome Wild Game Dinner at New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center on February 1, it was our best turnout and our largest fund raising in history. Many thanks to all who volunteered to make it happen, especially the Bielke families who absolutely put their heart and souls into this endeavor. We had close to 800 people come out and eat a wonderful dinner and then we raised more money than we ever have with live and silent auctions. The final figures are still being worked out and the 8 charitable organizations will love our generous donations to them. The WGD definitely puts SPLC on the map in our city and this outreach event is second to none!

Another big event in February was the ground breaking for our new classrooms complex for youth, preschool, and Sunday School purposes. We had an official ground break with shovels in the ground and Seidel Construction has started their work. There will be a short time loss of a few parking spots near the building while the construction goes on, but a small price to pay for the eventual increase in capacity and space for us as we reach out to the community. Thank you for your patience and many thanks to the Endowment Foundation for the ability to help us add to our building and reach more people with the love of Christ! We expect to be finished with the additional classrooms in time for the Fall school year in September 2020.

It is an exciting time to be at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Another new member class just finished their program and have joined us in membership. Yes we continue to grow. Let's all engage with these new members and help them find a place to connect and serve with us in our church. God is blessing SPLC!!

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

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



Texas District

Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



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

(Disclaimer: Even I have moments of seriousness. Sorry if that may shatter any images you might have of me)

There are moments in this job when the nature of humanity clearly comes through all of the chaos and it reminds me that we are definitely in need of a Savior. I would love to say that this is a new idea, but it's not. It's as old as the Garden of Eden itself. And, it is just made more obvious and accessible in a world that sustains itself with media of all types. I guess the hardest part is that we hope that we are immune or our little slice of the world is not susceptible to the evil in this world. Unfortunately, it just doesn't work like that. I hear peoples' stories daily and more often than not it is the same thing: "I want what I want. I want it now. And I don't want 'no' for an answer." That sense of selfishness seems to be the lens that we continually look at the world through. Unfortunately, it not only fills our world, but it creeps into our faith as well, yours, mine, everyone's.

The church at Philippi had succumbed to the selfishness that we are talking about. A church that Paul loved because of his time there, he wrote to them during his imprisonment to encourage them. Why did they need encouragement? Because of their lack of humility. Because they were being selfish and needed to be reminded that this was not Christlike.

Philippians 2:3-4 has Paul writing to this very problem: Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourself. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

These are important words for me and I hope they are important words for you as well. The truth is that we fail as a church as we get so wrapped up in us that we forget our role: Love God and love others. An age-old problem that God's people have struggled with from the beginning. So what? (Thanks for asking.)

1. Keep your eyes on the cross and not yourself. We need to be constantly focused on what we are called to do as believers. (Remember the Great Commission.)
2. Keep your eyes on others because of the cross. The cross calls us to serve....and serve in humility. There are plenty of hurting and broken people that need to hear the truth of the Gospel of Jesus.
3. Don't be discouraged by those who don't realize the truth that you speak of and live out. There is only one that we need to be concerned with and that is the Creator and Savior of this world.

The truth of Jesus is our central truth and nothing that this world has to offer will ever compare to Him. Never forget that and let it be a litmus test to our attitude and mindset of service to others.

Blessings from the East. I pray that you are strengthened in the path that God puts you on. In His hands.....PC

S.O.S. Food Bank

The S.O.S. Foodbank was established in June 1988, with the support of many contributors, like St. Paul. The Food Bank is staffed by approximately 300 volunteers and its mission is to feed the hungry in our community. In addition to food and financial donations throughout the year, S.O.S. shelves are replenished by the Letter Carriers' Drive in May, the Wurstfest drive sponsored by NBISD and CISD, and by various collections through churches, clubs, KGNB, service organizations, and businesses. Our community exhibits an outstanding spirit of sharing.

You are invited to visit at 248 Merriweather Street any weekday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. or on the first three Saturdays from 9:00-11:00 a.m. when volunteers are serving clients. Thank you for your continued support, both financially and with non-perishables placed in the wagon in the Church lobby.

Holy Communion Faith Stepping Stone

March 22-April 5
9:15-10:15 a.m.; Fellowship Hall

We invite 4th graders and their parents to join us for the Holy Communion Faith Stepping Stone Class on Sundays. These sessions will focus on the history of Passover and how Jesus transformed it into the Lord's Supper, the elements of Holy Communion and their significance and what the sacrament means to us. The class will culminate in receiving First Communion during church service on Maundy Thursday, April 9. Contact Kimberly Wunderlich at kimberly@nbstpaul.org or for additional information.

Congregational Life Board

Please join us for dinner during Lenten Season.
Dinner 5:30 p.m.
Worship Service at 6:30 p.m.

March 4-Turkey Pot Pie
March 11 -Pulled Pork Sandwiches
March 18-Baked Potato Bar
March 25-Chicken Spaghetti
April 1-Taco Soup
April 8-Mac-n-Cheese Bar

Also, please mark your calendars for Family Music Day in Landa Park on Saturday, May 16.

St Paul Youth News

CAMP EAGLE

June 8-13
Register:

<https://shelbygiving.com/App/Form/a52042c6-eb4c-4191-a4f3-8e35876b5014>

- Open to all 6th - 12th graders (completed grade)
- \$25 deposit is required for sign up
- Deadline is 2/24 for sign up - anything after that, you will not be guaranteed a spot!!
- Full payment of \$255 is due by June 1
- Scholarship is due by 5/1 - please contact church office

***** **CHAPERONE NEEDED!! We are in need of one more male chaperone for camp. If you are interested, please contact Lynn Lear @ (210) 215-1410*******

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

July 21 -24
Register:

<https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Form/765f21fe-2661-4169-80b7-c0edce85a81e>

- HIGH SCHOOL ONLY
- Please contact Lynn Lear to get your name on the list!
- Open to all 9th - 12th graders (completed grade)
- Limited spots available!! Cost is \$325
- Deadline for sign up will be 2/24 and full payment due by 7/1
- Scholarship is due by 5/1 - please contact the church office

***** **CHAPERONE NEEDED!! We are in need of a male chaperone for NYG! If you are interested, please contact Lynn Lear @ (210) 215-1410*******

SLUMBER FALLS COMMUNITY BIBLE CAMP

July 27-29
Register:

<https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Form/6e77961b-a484-4977-978d-fc349e88a052>

- Age 2nd-5th grade
- Learn more about following Jesus
- Bring a friend!
- For more information, contact Kimberly Wunderlich at kimberly@nbstpaul.org

Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School is June 15-19 from 9 a.m. – Noon. Mark your calendars for “Rocky Railway VBS”. During this faith-filled adventure, children age four through the fifth grade will discover how trusting Jesus pulls them through life’s ups and downs. If you would like to volunteer, please attend one of the volunteer meetings on **April 15** at 6:00 p.m., **April 16** at 1:00 p.m., or **April 19** at

9:15 a.m. Register as a participant or as a volunteer at <https://www.nbstpaul.org/faith-formation/children/>. For more information, contact Andi Holmgreen or Pamela Henderson or email the VBS crew at vbs@nbstpaul.org.



March Flowers

- March 1** - Tootsie Tiedt
- March 8** - Open
- March 15** - Aubrey Houlton/Taylor Key
- March 22** - James & Pam Walls
- March 29** - Sharon Harrington & Beth Zipp

Women’s Retreat

April 17, 18, 19

Relax In The Country

Yes, we’re busy—we’re women!!!
When do we ever have nothing to do?

That’s why you need to register for the Women’s Retreat. Come for the whole weekend or just Saturday. But come!!

Our study is Love Never Fails based on 1 Cor 13:8. Come fill your hearts spiritually, enjoy good food, connect with friends and make new ones, express yourself in a craft, play games, bird watch, or star gaze. Unplug and relax! Register online only at www.nbstpaul.org.



Preschool Ministry

The preschoolers love visitors! We enjoyed a visit from the Dental Ark hygienist to learn the importance of good dental hygiene. Please stop by or call the preschool if you are interested in reading or doing an activity with the preschool children.



Senior Pastor - Rev. Paul Owens - pastorpaul@nbstpaul.org
Pastor - Rev. Chip Reynolds - currently deployed until November 2020
Executive Director of Operations & Preschool - Michelle Rivera - michelle@nbstpaul.org
Communications Coordinator - Jennifer Burrows - jennifer@nbstpaul.org
Bookkeeper/Controller - Stacy Garcia - stacy@nbstpaul.org
Director of Music & Creative Arts - Jody Noblett - jody@nbstpaul.org
F3 Ministry Manager - Kimberly Wunderlich - Kimberly@nbstpaul.org
Organist - Ann Brown - annb003@aol.com
Staff - Alison Setser - alison@nbstpaul.org
Staff - Jo Schomberg - jo@nbstpaul.org
Multi-Media Staff - Lorrie Cook - lorrie@nbstpaul.org
CHURCH OFFICE (830) 625-9191
PRESCHOOL (830) 625-2044
FAX (830) 620-7715

March 2020



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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NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

ST. PAUL
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CHURCH
simply engaging

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