



Paul Owens, Senior Pastor

A touchless thermometer on your forehead?

Our earthly kingdoms are tottering and we're getting our temperature taken a lot these days. Even when you and I enter the church building - setting one foot not in a physical kingdom but in the heavenly one - even then a touchless thermometer is to our forehead. This is a GREAT occasion to be reminded of God's promise to you in your baptism. Here's why:

When the preacher John was exiled on the Aegean island of Patmos, he was given a heavenly vision. This vision serves not to reveal the floor plan or the precise chronology of heaven, but to give God's promise to a persecuted and messy church... so that we may have courage for today and hope for eternity. John wrote this vision down so that you and I could read and hear God's promise today:

"Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads." Revelation 14:1 (144,000 is not a literal counting of heads, but John's poetic way of saying "just the right number, all those chosen by the Lamb and his Father).

Let's pray: Gracious and Almighty father, thank you that your judgment upon me has indeed come in Christ Jesus, the Lamb of God. So, on my forehead is not a touchless thermometer that takes the measure of me... but your own name. Thank you... and alleluia. Amen.

By the way, if it just so happens that you are not yet baptized, then give us a call and we will arrange to have the Lord speak his promise over and for you.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Paul



David Doss, President

Do you ever wonder how much different life was in Jesus' day compared to how we live today? Some questions come to mind such as:

Instead of worrying about putting gas in the car did people in that time worry about putting hay in the donkey? Did people in Jesus' day give others nicknames or shorten names? Did friends of Bartholomew call him Bart? Was Nicodemus called Nick by his friends? How about Zacchaeus, did his friends call him Shorty? Who knows for sure?

One thing we do know is that the Devil has been working on humans since Adam and Eve ate the apple. I guess back then instead of admiring a fancy new car we'd be coveting a fancy new chariot. Instead of wishing we had the latest iPad we would be craving to have the newest abacus. As the old adage goes, "The more things change, the more they stay the same."

One thing we do know for sure is that the Word of God is as relevant in our lives today as it was in Jesus' day. Every day we face challenges and decisions that test our faith. In Matthew 22:36-40, Jesus tells us what the greatest commandment and the second greatest commandments are: love God and love all people. Let's not let Satan distract us from what is really important.

Praise be to God, His Son and the Holy Spirit!!

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

One of my favorite animals in the entire world is the sloth. Sometimes (especially on Sunday afternoons while Dallas is playing) I become very unenergetic. It just happens and usually a nap is the end result. Complete unproductivity.

There is a video of a sloth in the middle of the road being saved by a passing motorist. When the man reaches down to lift him up, the sloth can do nothing but hang in midair, helpless, as the man carries him to safety. It is that image of a sloth that I believe the word slothful gets at in Paul's letter to the Romans.

Romans 12:11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Our passions in the faith cannot be tamped down and passive. We must be a people that is passionate and zealous about what we believe and how we live that belief. That passion must not only rival but exceed our passions for anything in this world because much more is at stake. Much more indeed.

Our passion must burn in us to daily serve the Lord with all that we have.

So, to more effectively do this, I have begun replacing the word Why in my vocabulary with the word How?

To live zealously, fervent by faith, and serve the Lord, I need to know how to do that. To live a life as devoted to Christ as possible is going to require a change in mindset, a change in focus, and most of all a change in practice. I am going to have to actively look for places to share my faith through action with the world around me and stop expecting the world to ask me for help.

Unproductivity is not an option. No more slothful approaches to the world. Only pressing into opportunities to serve the God that saved me from the middle of the road and safely got me to the other side.

But I may still take my Sunday afternoon naps from time to time. We'll just have to see how that works out.

In His arms,

PC

German Heritage Dinner



November 8
4-6:30 p.m.
Krause's Café

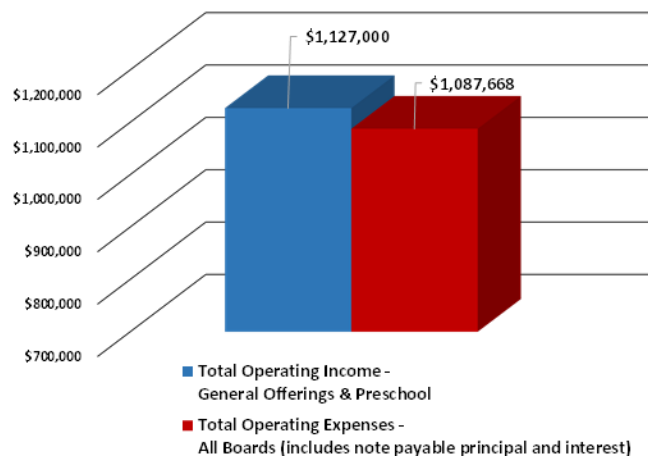
Join us for a St. Paul German Heritage fellowship event and welcome our New Disciples. Please RSVP on the website. You will need to indicate how many adult plates (sausage, cabbage, sauerkraut, and cottage potatoes) and children's plates (chicken strips and fries) we need to plan for. Krause's can only accommodate 200, so hurry and RSVP - spaces are filling up fast! **Deadline to RSVP is Friday, November 6.** Alcohol may be purchased on personal tabs. Terry Cavanaugh will begin playing at 5:00 p.m. Be sure to come and enjoy this special time together!

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 22
11:30 a.m.

Be sure to plan and attend our Congregational Meeting after 2nd service on Sunday, November 22.

Income Versus Expenses
Year-to-Date September 30, 2020





November Altar Flowers

November 1 - Open
 November 8 - Scott & Jenna Collinsworth
 November 15 - BJ & Pixie Hageman
 November 22 - Open
 November 29 - Open

Important Things to Know...

Family Dinner on Wednesday Evenings

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. for Family Dinner. This is an opportunity to enjoy a meal and fellowship with your church family. You are invited to join a small group as well. All are welcome to Family Dinner - it is first come, first serve for the meal.



coffee

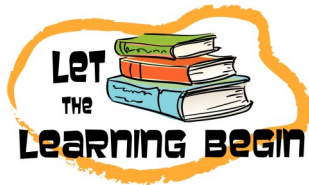


Coffee on Sundays

Coffee is available every Sunday from 9:00-10:00 a.m. November 1, it will be served from the back door of the kitchen (in the hallway). Beginning November 8, coffee will be served in the Fellowship Hall.

Resource List

If your child is in need of tutoring during the school year, please contact the church office. We have a few congregants willing to assist in several different subject areas and have compiled a resource list of tutors that you may contact.



St Paul Youth News

Wednesday, Nov. 4 - Open Gym at 6:00 p.m.
 Graduate Blessing #1 at 6:30 p.m.
 (for seniors and their parents)

Saturday, Nov. 7 - Surviving Adolescence at 9:00 a.m.
 (for 6th graders and their parents)

Wednesday, Nov. 11 & 18 - ARK Event

Wednesday, Nov. 25 - No meeting
 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship
 with Dessert social to follow

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 25
 6:30 p.m.
 Dessert social to follow the service.



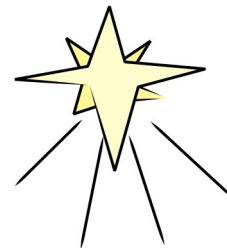
Advent by Candlelight

LADIES, SAVE THE DATE!
 Sunday, December 6
 Fellowship Hall



A D V E N T

Children's Christmas Program



Song of the Stars
Sunday, December 13
 (during 10:30 service)

Rehearsal Schedule in the Sanctuary:

Wed., Dec. 2nd at 5:00-5:30 p.m.
 Sat., Dec. 5th at 9:00-9:45 a.m.
 Wed., Dec. 9th at 5:00-5:30 p.m.
 Sun., Dec. 13th at 9:15-9:30 a.m.

Candlelight
 Service



Christmas Eve Services

1:00; 3:00; 5:00; and 7:00 p.m.

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
Multi-Media Staff - Lorrie Cook - lorrie@nbstpaul.org
CHURCH OFFICE (830) 625-9191
PRESCHOOL (830) 625-2044
FAX (830) 620-7715

November 2020



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

ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
simply engaging

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MEMBER LCMC
Return Services Requested

