

St. Paul Lutheran Church

"The Red Brick Church on Ave M"

1303 Avenue M; P.O. Box 58 Hondo, TX 78861

Telephone: (830) 426-3222 or 426-2343

Office Hours: Mon.- Thurs. 9am-4pm;

Closed on Friday

E-mail: stpaulhondo@yahoo.com

Website: www.stpaulhondo.org



August 2026

St. Paul Staff

Senior Pastor: Beverly Kelling

Children & Family Ministry: Laurie Lentz

Youth Ministry: Jacob Kelling

Office Secretary: Joann Neuman

Financial Secretary: Erin Guenther

MDO Director: Annette Kammer

Music Ministry Coordinator: Jeanette Rath

Music Team:

Jeanette Rath, Jody Jacobs, Rick Brickles,
Ben Rath, Becky Burton, Anna Weimer,
Cynthia Nester & Lauren Guenther

Services:

Sunday, 9:00am

Wednesday, "Come As You Are" 6:00pm

Contemporary Worship Service

Facebook page:

(St Paul Lutheran Church Hondo)

YouTube:

(St Paul Lutheran Church Hondo TX)

Current and past Sunday services can be found here.

2026 Council Members

President	Wayne Scholtz
Vice President	Johnette Dixon
Secretary	Jenny Lessing
Treasurer	Pam Westbrook
Evangelism	Stephanie Laughinghouse
Education	Marilyn Graff
Fellowship	Paul Ott
Property	Derlin Hennig
Lay Ministry	Deb Cleary
Worship & Music	Lynda Halbardier

Discernment in a Deceptive Age - 7/12/2026

Scripture Reference: "For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." (Matthew 24:24)

Reflection: In these last days, the Scriptures caution us about the growing deception that permeates our world. The Bible serves as our unwavering anchor in times of confusion, reminding us of the importance of discerning truth from falsehood. As believers, we are called to be vigilant, especially in an era where technology blurs the lines between reality and illusion.

The Reality of Deception: The rise of artificial intelligence and its ability to generate hyper-realistic content presents a unique challenge. From manipulated videos to fabricated narratives, distinguishing truth from deception has never been more daunting. This is not merely a technological issue; it is a spiritual battleground. Just as Jesus warned of "lying signs and wonders," we must be discerning about what we consume and accept as truth.

The Role of the Holy Spirit: In this age of uncertainty, the Holy Spirit is our greatest ally. However, His role goes beyond emotional expressions during worship. The Holy Spirit is our guide, leading us into all truth (John 16:13). It is through a close relationship with Him that we can navigate the complexities of our time. We must cultivate this relationship, seeking His wisdom and discernment in every aspect of our lives.

Key Points to Consider:

1. **The Bible as Truth:** Embrace the Word of God as the most reliable source of truth. Let it be your foundation in discerning the messages of our time.
2. **Beware of Deception:** Recognize that the end times will be marked by misleading teachings and spiritual confusion. Stay alert and grounded in Scripture.
3. **Depend on the Holy Spirit:** Foster a daily relationship with the Holy Spirit. Ask for His guidance in understanding and interpreting the world around you.
4. **Exercise Discernment:** Be cautious about accepting information at face value. Take time to pray and reflect before forming beliefs based on external evidence. In a time where appearances can easily be manipulated, our reliance on the Holy Spirit is more critical than ever. Seek His wisdom to discern the truth, focusing on what is authentic rather than what merely seems real.

Action Steps:

- **Strengthen Your Discernment:** Engage in regular prayer and Scripture study to enhance your ability to discern truth.
- **Question What You See:** Approach videos and public claims with caution. Take time to verify before accepting them as truth.
- **Prioritize Spiritual Guidance:** Seek a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit, allowing Him to lead you beyond mere outward expressions of faith.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, We come before You with grateful hearts, acknowledging the gift of the Holy Spirit, our divine guide and Counselor. In a world filled with confusion and deception, we seek Your wisdom to discern truth from falsehood. Help us to stay rooted in Your Word, which is our firm foundation amidst the shifting sands of modern life. Grant us the clarity to see beyond outward appearances and the courage to question what we encounter. May our hearts be attuned to Your voice, guiding us through the noise and distractions that surround us. Strengthen our relationship with You, that we may walk closely with the Spirit, allowing Him to lead us into all truth. As we navigate these challenging times, empower us to share Your light with others, helping them to discern truth as well. Let our faith be a beacon of hope and clarity in a world desperate for authenticity. We trust in Your guidance, knowing that You are always with us. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.



The Red Brick Church on Ave M

'We should not stop gathering together with other believers, as some of you are doing. Instead, we must continue to encourage each other even more as we see the day of the Lord coming.'
Hebrews 10:25

Why is being a part of a church important even as fewer people are attending? After all, simply attending church doesn't automatically strengthen your faith - just as walking into a gym doesn't instantly improve your fitness. Right? But if I may

From my own experience, when Mark & I moved to Hondo 33 years ago, church (St. Paul in particular) was where we worshipped our LORD, and met and connected with many in our community.

Our simple country church was **a great support and reset button for life's demands**. Relationships were forming, my relationship with God was growing; my understanding of who I was in Christ was increasing and the ability to see the difference between the things of the world and the things of God was expanding.

When it came to our 3 kids, they made friends too; they heard stories that were (almost) unbelievable; they had caring people who looked after them, invested in them, prayed for them and took an interest in their lives.

Now that we are all older, not much has changed: This church is STILL a sacred space, a place that fans the fire to be transformed more like Christ; to understand a Biblical worldview and to resist the temptation to settle for less than what God has created and called us to be.

Church is STILL about loving relationships – with God and with others – for us AND our children!

As we get ready to go “Back to School” I would encourage you too to go “back to church” to reset. Try out a Sunday School class – we have them for all ages, and realize we want more for you than from you. We want you to know the peace, joy, strength, truth, laughter, fellowship and friendship you can have as a believer (or seeker) in the St. Paul church family.



Back to School Series

August 2: The Stone

Psalms 118:21-24

Genesis 11:1-4

1 Peter 2:1-8

Luke 20:17-18

August 9: Great Expectations for the Encore of Christ

Psalms 5:3-4, 7

Matthew 24:34-51

**Confirmation Parent Meeting*

**Nursing Home Service*

**WWJSTX Gathering*

August 16: “What About Those Who Have Never Heard of Jesus?”

Psalms 116:5-8

Acts 17:22-31

Luke 15:4-7

**Confirmation Kick-Off Pool Party*

August 23: Train Up a Child

Proverbs 22:6, 15, 28

Luke 2:21-41

August 30: We are Living in a Material World

Ecclesiastes 5:10-12, 15

1 Timothy 6:6-12

Matthew 6:19-21, 24-33

**Youth Service*

**Promotion Sunday*

'I pray that out of the glorious richness of His resources He will enable you to know the strength of the spirit's inner re-inforcement — that Christ may actually live in your hearts by your faith. And I pray that you, firmly fixed in love yourselves, may be able to grasp (with all Christians) how wide & deep & long & high is the love of Christ—and to know for yourselves that love so far beyond our comprehension.'

Blessings in Christ, Beverly <///><

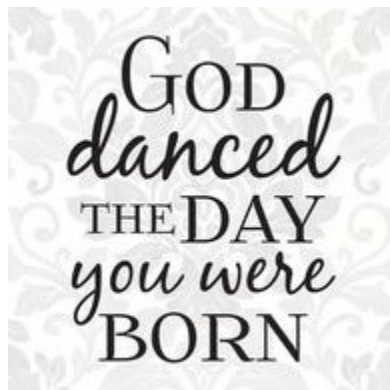
RESPONSIBILITIES

Date	August 2nd	August 9th	August 16th	August 23rd	August 30th
Altar Flowers	Kelling Family	OPEN	Ivey & Diann Smith	OPEN	Honigs
Sanctuary Lamp	Tim & Joann Neuman	Audrey Moncada	Debbie Whitehead	OPEN	Debbie Whitehead
Head Ushers	Johnette Dixon Stephanie Laughinghouse	Deb Cleary Pam Westbrook	Wayne Scholtz Jenny Lessing	Lynda Halbardier Derlin Hennig	Pam westbrook Paul Ott
Lectors	Will Winchester	Dianne Bradley	Deb Cleary	Erica Halbardier	Youth
Acolytes	Landon Cortez Luke Kelley	Kaylee Torres Claire Bowman	Easton Beard Addi Beard	Trey Denman Bridgette Pinkham	Eli Bradshaw Kinslee Andrewald
Altar Guild	Sarah Bailey, Klaire Bradshaw & Chrie McCue				

Please sign up for Flowers & Sanctuary Lamp, charts are in the Education Building. If you would like for the church to order the flowers, they are \$60.00 please contact the office. Sponsoring the lamp is \$4.00.

BIRTHDAYS

8/01 Evelyn Brucks
Johnette Dixon
Karen Flores
Klaire Bradshaw
8/02 Trey Terrill
Shane Molitor
8/03 Dianna Smith
Vale Favor
8/04 Marti Graff
8/08 Lisa Theis
Jaquelyn Mitchell
8/10 Amelia DeLaCruz
Russell Beard
8/11 Kelsie Brucks
8/12 Shirley Knecht
8/13 Jacob Bailey
8/14 Jean Saathoff
8/16 William Reus
8/17 Michelle Bailey
Coy Jacobs
Curtis Weimers



8/18 Chuck Hart
Lyla Tapia-Torres
8/19 Don Krumrey
Lily Bendele
Luke Kelley
Maggie Terrill
8/20 Pat Cleary
Janice Zinsmeyer
8/21 John Baxter
Carol Hathaway
Christina Molina
April Torres
8/28 Allan Cranfill
Sarah Reus
Amber Greenwalt
Spencer Franke
8/30 Jay Maddox
8/31 Robert Richter

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School	3 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Men's Bible Study	4 7:00am Prayer Warriors	5 Tack Quilters 6pm CAYA Service 7pm Bible Study (A/C)	6 Office Closed	7 Office Closed 6pm – 8pm Ladies Bingo Night (A/C)	8
9 9:00am Worship Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School Confirmation Parent Meeting (Youth room) 2pm Nursing Home 4:30pm WWJSWTX @ Western Heritage	10 D'Hanis ISD Starts Cornerstone 10am-2pm 1:30 Friends In Faith	11 7:00am Prayer Warriors	12 Tack Quilters 6pm CAYA Service Youth following 7pm Bible Study	13 Hondo ISD Starts	14 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline	15
16 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 1pm-5pm confirmation Kick-Off	17 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 7:00pm Men's Bible Study	18 7:00am Prayer Warriors 7pm Council Meeting	19 Tack Quilters 6pm CAYA Service Youth following 7pm Bible Study (A/C)	20	21 Office Closed	22
23 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School	24 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 1:30 Friends In Faith	25 7:00am Prayer Warriors Usage of A/C - Life Line Screening	26 Tack Quilters 6pm CAYA Service Youth following 7pm Bible Study (A/C)	27 7pm Band of Brothers (A/C)	28	29
30 Youth Sunday/ Promotion Sunday 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School	31 Cornerstone 10am-2pm					

Do you have questions.....
You can contact
Laurie @ 210-213-2088 or
Jacob @ 830-741-1045

Youth and Children of St. Paul



What can you do as a parent to
strengthen your child's faith?
Their eternity depends on YOU

Bible Study Opportunities
Youth Sunday School is in
full swing with a Bible
Lesson each Sunday
morning. Wednesday Night
Youth is also in full swing
with a Bible Lesson from 7
to 8:15 pm . Bible Study
Lunches and After School
Bible Studies will start back
up in August

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even
when he is old he will not depart from it."
Proverbs 22:6

Upcoming Important Dates

August 16th – Confirmation Pool Party
August 30th – Promotion Sunday with
Open House Prayer Event/ Youth
Sunday
Sept. 13th – First Communion
Training 10:30 to 1 pm
Sept. 20th – First Communion Sunday
–Confirmation
Oct. 25th – Fall Festival
Nov. 21st – Breakfast with Santa
Dec. 9th – Christmas Program

YOU ARE



INVITED

SO... HERE'S THE THING ♥

EVERY WEEK, KIDS ARE DISCOVERING WHO
JESUS IS—THROUGH STORIES, GAMES,
LAUGHTER, AND LOVE.

IT'S BEAUTIFUL. IT'S A LITTLE CHAOTIC.
AND IT MATTERS MORE THAN WE REALIZE.

KIDS MINISTRY ISN'T ABOUT BEING PERFECT.
IT'S ABOUT SHOWING UP, LOVING KIDS WELL,
AND HELPING SHAPE FAITH IN THE NEXT
GENERATION.

THIS IS REAL KINGDOM WORK.
RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW.
AND HONESTLY...

WE'D LOVE TO DO IT WITH YOU :)

ONLY 1 SUNDAY A MON- PREPARED LESSONS,
ACTIVITIES, HUGS AND VOLUNTEERS CAN BE
MALE OR FEMALE - YOUNG OR OLD

CONTACT CARRIE @ 210-415-0546 OR LAURIE @
210-213-2088 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER



Camp Eagle

Dates and details have not been set in stone yet.

**A deposit of \$150 WILL BE REQUIRED TO
SIGN YOUR CAMPER(S) UP!!** In order to get the
\$150 donation from church your camper will have
to participate in at least 3 volunteer projects of
the church! Volunteer projects are events such as
the Fall Festival, Breakfast with Santa, Flags
across Hondo, church wide clean up days, and
VBS. Individual fundraisers will be the Dessert
Auction, Rummage Sale, and Rent a Kid to help a
specific church member. You can do your own
fundraiser outside of church if you would like to
help you get to camp. The cost of camp has not
been confirmed yet! More details to come in the
very near future! Contact Laurie or Jacob with
questions or concerns .



Parents....you received an
email with a Sunday School
Survey. Please take the time to
fill it out. We want to make
sure we are doing everything to
teach your children about
Jesus. Thank you .

Children's Sunday School Happenings

Summer Sunday School is casual and relaxed. The children 3 year old
to 4th grade are learning about Working For God. The biblical focus
in this series is found in several New Testament scriptures which talk
about our individual vocations as part of the one body of Christ.
Like many gears working together as part of an active machine, God
has made us all a part of one body, the Church, and each of us are
given talents and skills to serve God in our everyday life.

We are working on one big craft for the summer. It is a quilt. Every
week we color one block. The quilters donated the fabric and will
help us put it together. When it is finished, it will hang in the north
end of the Legacy Life Building.

Here are the topics for August

August 2 - Missionaries bring God's message

August 9 - You, too, are a servant of God

August 16 - finish and hang the quilt (it will need to be hand tied like
the ones the quilters do)

August 23 - Service Project -make sure all the pencils in the Church
are sharpened, restock prayer cards, and go through activity bags

August 30 - PROMOTION SUNDAY

The 5th / 6th Grade class is continuing their deeper dives into the
Gospel Readings and other topics they are interested in. While still
having the opportunity to earn a Bible, Bible cover, etc. through
memory work. Lots of great opportunities to grow your child's faith.



10:30 am | August 30 | Sunday School Classrooms

Come meet the teachers, learn about the lessons being taught,
get a schedule, and see the space where our children's hearts
are filled with the love of Jesus! Pre K to 4th grade meet in the
Legacy Life building and 5th – 6th grade meet across from
Pastor Beverly's office in the Education building . The Youth
meet upstairs in the activity Center ! Let's work together to
strengthen our kid's faith as much as we prioritize other
activities in our lives ! Again it is just 45 minutes a week.
Jesus gives us 24/7

Sunday School Lesson 26-27

08/30/26	Promotion Sunday	
09/06/26	The Days of Creation	Genesis 1:1-10, 1:24-2:3 Isaiah 45:5-8, 12
09/13/26	Noah and the Ark	Gen 6:5-22, 7:11-12, 8:8-4 1 Peter 3:20-22
09/20/26	Abraham Appeals to God	Genesis 18:13-33 Ephesians 2:1-9
09/27/26	Joseph Forgives his Brothers	Genesis 45:4-20, 25-28 Leviticus 19:17-18
10/04/26	Baby Moses in the Basket	Exodus 1:8 - 2:10 Hebrews 11:23-26
10/11/26	Water from the Rock	Exodus 17:1-7 Philippians 2:12-18
10/18/26	Crossing the Jordan	Joshua 3:1-17 Isaiah 43:1-3
10/25/26	Fall Festival	- No Sunday School
11/01/26	Samson Gets Revenge	Judges 16:4-31 Isaiah 40:28b-31
11/08/26	Israel Demands a King	1 Samuel 8:4-18, 9:15-17 Mark 10:42-45
11/15/26	Solomon Asks for Wisdom	1 Kings 3:3-15 Proverbs 1:1-7
11/22/26	Elijah and the Poor Widow	1 Kings 17:1-16 Psalm 111:1-6
11/29/26	5th Sunday	- Science Lesson
12/06/26	Handwriting on the Wall	Daniel 5:1-30 2 Peter 1:19-21
12/13/26	The Valley of Dry Bones	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Ephesians 2:19-22
12/20/26	Job's Suffering	Job 1:1, 2:1-13 Romans 8:14-28
12/27/26	The Potter and the Clay	Jeremiah 18:1-11 Romans 9:14-24
01/03/27	Swords into Plowshares	Micah 4:1-7 1 Peter 2:4-10
01/10/27	Mary Visits Elizabeth	Luke 1:39-56 Isaiah 9:6-7
01/17/27	Temptation by the Devil	Matthew 4:1-11 Hebrews 2:14 - 3:2a
01/24/27	Jesus Calls a Fisherman	Luke 5:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
01/31/27	5th Sunday	- Sports Lesson
02/07/27	Parables of the Seeds and Soils	Matthew 13:1-23 1 Corinthians 3:4-9
02/14/27	Jesus Raises Jairus' Daughter	Luke 8:40-56 Psalm 30:1-5
02/21/27	Who Do You Say I Am?	Matthew 16:13-25 2 Corinthians 4:7-18
02/28/27	Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet	John 12:1-11 Psalm 45:6-15
03/07/27	Release of Barabbas	Matthew 27:11-26 Psalm 94:14-22
03/14/27	The Road to Emmaus	Luke 24:13-35 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
03/21/27	Jesus Sends Out His Disciples	Matthew 28:16-20 2 Corinthians 5:14-6:2
03/28/27	Easter	- No Sunday School
04/04/27	Jesus Ascends into Heaven	Acts 1:1-11 Hebrews 1:1-4
04/11/27	Confirmation	- Confirmation Ceremony for Sunday School
04/18/27	Peter's Vision of the Cloth	Acts 10:9-35 Ephesians 2:13-18
04/25/27	Paul Preaches in Athens	Acts 17:16-34 1 Corinthians 1:20-25
05/02/27	Paul is Shipwrecked	Acts 27:18-44 Psalm 18:15-16
05/09/27	Justified by Faith	Romans 3:10-28 Romans 5:1-11
05/16/27	Letter from an Eyewitness	2 Peter 1:1-4, 10-21 Acts 10:38-43
05/23/27	Resurrection Day	Revelation 20:11 - 21:4 Matthew 19:28-30
05/30/27	5th Sunday	- Jeopardy Style Review

Sunday School (10:30am-11:15am)

Children & Youth

3-5 yr. olds—LLB— Rotations

1st & 2nd — LLB - Rotations

3rd & 4th — LLB — Rotations

5th & 6th — Ed. Bldg. - Geoff Weimer

7th-12th grades- (AC Upper Rooms) —
Jacob Kelling / Johnette Dixon / Pat Cleary



Adult Small Sunday Groups:

Study of Esther then John

led by David Hershberger (O.W.L.S., Act. Center)

“Come and See” led by Ron Sprenger
(Lion’s Den, Legacy Life Bldg.)

“Studying the Books of the Bible”
led by Rod Prewitt (Turtle Room, Ed. Bldg.)

Study of the 10 Commandments (L.I.F.E. Class, Ed. Bldg.)
Led by Kevin & Anjie Clifton

Children/Youth Bible Study Opportunities

Kinder-3rd Grade: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays (4pm-5:15pm)

Off until September

4th-6th Grade: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays (4pm-5:15pm)

Off until September

Wednesday High School Lunch Bible Study Fellowship

Off until August 19th

Youth — See calendar, bulletin and texts.
Normally Wednesdays 7pm to 8:15 pm,
following Come As You Are Service.

Prayer Ministry

Email— Don Krumrey - dkrum45@att.net

One – on – One Prayer – offered at the end of service

Contact: Don Krumrey (830-741-9991)
Shirley Krumrey (830-931-4311)

Adult Bible Study Opportunities:

First and Third Mondays at 7 PM

Men’s Bible Study (LLB) led by Don Krumrey

Second and Fourth Mondays 1:30pm-3:00pm

Friends In Faith (Education Building) led by Pastor Beverly
In the book of James.

Mondays at 7 PM

Journaling – Roberta Hennig (Education Bldg. - Turtle Room)

Taking a break till the fall

Wednesday at 7pm (Following CAYA)

Through the Bible teaching, studying about prophesy
and much that has yet to be fulfilled. In Genesis
Led by David Hershberger jump in & join in anytime
(Activity Center – Behind the kitchen).

Healing & Comfort:

Caregivers, Buffie Rogge, Larry Stewart, Chuck DeHaven, Shirley Krumrey, Bobby Klein, Pye Haass, Margaret Reus, Fred Graff,
John Baxter & Claude Cosgrove

*(Please help us to update, if we need to add or remove someone from the list above please contact the office.)

Active Military

Ethan Kammer, Ben Rath, Larry & Teresa Sullivan, Adriel Schoenhals, Patrick Green, Riley Lynch, Les Armstrong,
Collin Beazley, Heath Runnels, Sean Constante, Madelyn Acosta, Will Winchester & Jimmy Rhodes.

*(Please help us to update, if we need to add or remove someone from the list above please contact the office.)



Before we face a fallen
world that features a
relentless scheming enemy,
we need to **be fully suited
up and ready** for whatever
battle we might face.



HERE AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Looking Ahead

August 9th – Confirmation parent meeting 10:30 am

August 16th – Confirmation Kick Off 1–5 pm

August 30th – Youth Sunday/Promotion/Open House Sunday

September 20th – First Communion Training

St. Paul has a ministry called “Flags Across Hondo” where American Flags are put out at residences and some businesses 6 times a year. We are in need of several volunteers. If you would like to help with this ministry please contact Rick McCue @ 817-907-9275.



*** Friendly reminder to those awarded the 2025 scholarships please bring your required documents to the financial secretary to receive your scholarship check.**

We invite you to send an encouraging word to our nursing home members & homebound.

Community Care Nursing Home

2001 Avenue E Hondo, TX 78861

Brian Boehle Elaine Eccles

Castroville Nursing Home

913 US-90, Castroville, TX 78009

Mario Salazar

Changing Seasons

1687 Old Hwy 90

Castroville, TX 78009

Henry Nietenhoefer

Shut-Ins mailing address

Gladys Feller

8358 Slippery Rock

San Antonio, Tx 78251

Kathy Feller

385 N Ranch Rd 187

Sabinal, TX 78881

Rosa “Pye” Haass

135 Plaza Drive Apt.#25A

Kerrville, TX 78028

“COME AS YOU ARE”

6pm Worship Services

August 5th – OPEN

August 12th – Kevin Clifton

August 19th – Jason Sprenger

August 26th – Pastor Beverly- Islam

September 2nd – Will Winchester



Once again thank you so much for the great provision that has made our children to have food and the cows which will produce milk to our children and the community around Maoni Orphanage.

Please send our gratitude to the Koinonia Class and the children of St Paul Lutheran Church for making all this possible. May God bless them all and give them good health always.

Enock



Church Membership

Ready to make it official? Have you been attending services for a while and decided it's time to join our family? Great! Call the church office at (830) 426- 3222 or reach out to Pastor Beverly. We are blessed you feel called to worship and do life with us here.





August Special Offering ~ Walking With Jesus South Texas

Walking with Jesus is something that we should all seek to do daily. In **Luke 9:23** Jesus says, *"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."*

Walking With Jesus South Texas (WWJSTX) is a venture that some of us at St. Paul Lutheran Church embraced a couple years ago, along with a group of other churches here in south Texas that were formerly involved with the *Walk to Emmaus* community. Collectively, we wanted to start something new, like Emmaus, but totally different.

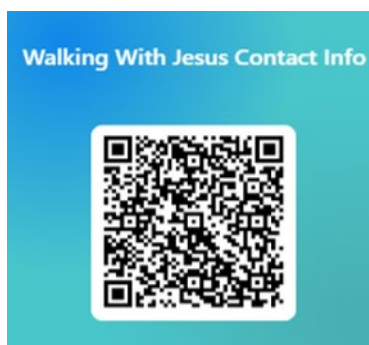
Our mission is to provide a biblically based program that encourages individuals (both team and participants) to explore and deepen their faith in Christ. We seek to teach, equip, and inspire individuals to proclaim and defend the Gospel through retreats, gatherings, and small groups for accountability and continued growth.

We have volunteers that have been meeting for the past couple years to write a brand-new program, to include talks, liturgy, bylaws, and policies and procedures. WWJSTX is planning our first *Damascus Journey* weekend in the fall of 2027.

I highly encourage everyone to visit our web-page at WWJSTX.org or visit us on **Facebook** to get more information. We gather for worship, fellowship, and food on the second Sunday of every month, and **everyone** is invited to attend.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please talk to me or contact me at 210.913.1160 (mobile).

-Pat Cleary
Church Representative
WWJSTX St. Paul Lutheran Church





Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



A New Season of Learning

As we prepare to flip the calendar to August, there is no denying it's back-to-school time! Stores are showcasing all the school supplies front and center. Moms and Dads are taking their kids shopping for new clothes and shoes and backpacks and a never-ending list of things that every parent hopes will help their son or daughter learn and grow in the new school year. Soon churches will be blessing backpacks, praying for schools, and teachers, as the buses begin to roll. For many, the end of summer is a reminder of fresh starts and new learning.

What if this became a life-prompt for our discipleship journey? As I write this, we will soon be gathering in New Braunfels around the theme CALLED. Together we are exploring 2 Timothy 1:9 and are reminded that God saves us and calls us with a holy calling, not because of anything we have earned or accomplished, but according to his own purpose and grace. That is where the Christian life begins. Yet Paul does not leave Timothy, or us, there. In 2 Timothy 2:2 he instructs young Timothy what those who are called are to do next: What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Notice the sequence Paul describes here: He taught Timothy. Timothy is then to entrust that same teaching to other faithful people. Then those faithful people are in turn to teach others. That is four generations of discipleship referenced in a single verse! This is how the gospel moves through history: from one disciple to another, passed down from one generation to the next. Every follower of Jesus is simultaneously a learner and a trainer: We never graduate from Jesus' discipleship training, always both learning from those who are ahead of us and teaching those who are coming after us. With that in mind, let me ask you two questions to ponder:

First, how is God calling you to keep on learning? Perhaps you join a small group or Bible study, or ask another believer to meet with and mentor you for a while. The One who called you longs to keep forming you by His grace and for His purpose. So how is God calling you to continue to grow and mature in your faith life in this new season?

Second, whom will you teach? You do not need a theology degree to be faithful to the call in 2 Timothy 2:2. You need only to faithfully pass on what you yourself have received. Teach a child, mentor a new believer, or open your home and your Bible to a neighbor. Invest in someone who will receive the Word of truth from you in the hope that in the same way one day they may invest in another.

This is the very heart of our shared mission as a District: to multiply disciples and churches. Through intentional relationships we seek to equip leaders, strengthen congregations, and inspire gospel mission. When we gather each year in July, it is never our finish line. Rather this is the starting line for a new season of learning and growth in faith. I pray that we may be hungry and eager learners and diligent, humble and faithful teachers, so that the good news we have received keeps on multiplying and being handed down from one generation to the next. Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org

6/19/26

To all of you -

Thank you so
much for having me.

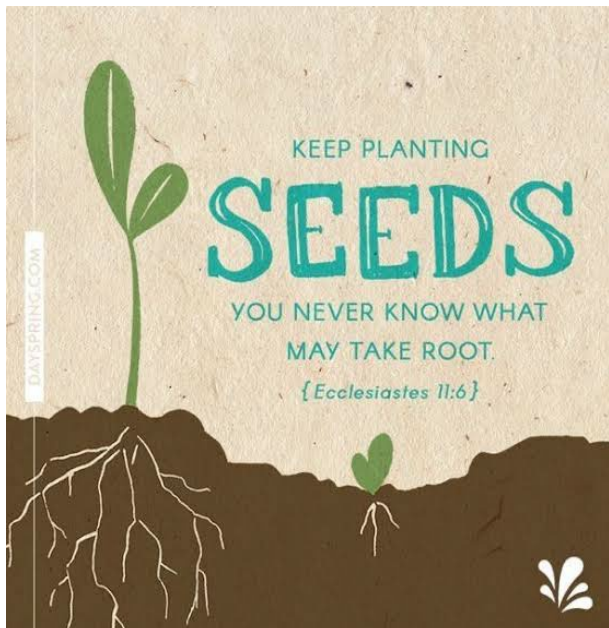
Brett Busch

You all were very
appreciated!

I loved your camp
Vacation Church Bible School!

Thank you for pouring into our kids!

The McGinnis Family



Dear precious ones at
St. Paul Lutheran,
Your Sunday School Offering
+ special donation were
received by Restore Reproductive
Health with much joy +
gratitude! We are incredibly
blessed by your faithfulness
in supporting the very vital
work we do in our Lord's
Name. May you + yours be
safe + enjoy the remainder
of summer.

Sincerely,
Diane Cogswell
Executive Director

