

St. Paul Lutheran Church

December 2024

“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.- Wed. 9am-4pm;

closed on Thursday; Fri. 9am-3pm

E-mail: stpaulhondo@yahoo.com

Website: www.stpaulhondo.org



St. Paul Staff

Senior Pastor: Beverly Kelling

Youth Ministry: Jacob Kelling

Children & Family Ministry: Laurie Lentz

Office Secretary: Joann Neuman

Financial Secretary: Erin Guenther

MDO Director: Annette Kammer

Music Ministry Coordinator: Jeanette Rath

Musicians

Guitarist: Jody Jacobs & Ben Rath

Organist: Grace Reed

Drums: Rick Brickles & Jacob Kelling

Vocals: David Hershberger, Becky Burton,

Lilly Bendele, Jenny Bowman & Jeanette Rath

Violinist: Jeanette Rath

Services

Sunday, 9:00am

Wednesday, 6:00pm

“Come As You Are” Contemporary Worship Service

Church Website: (stpaulhondo.org)

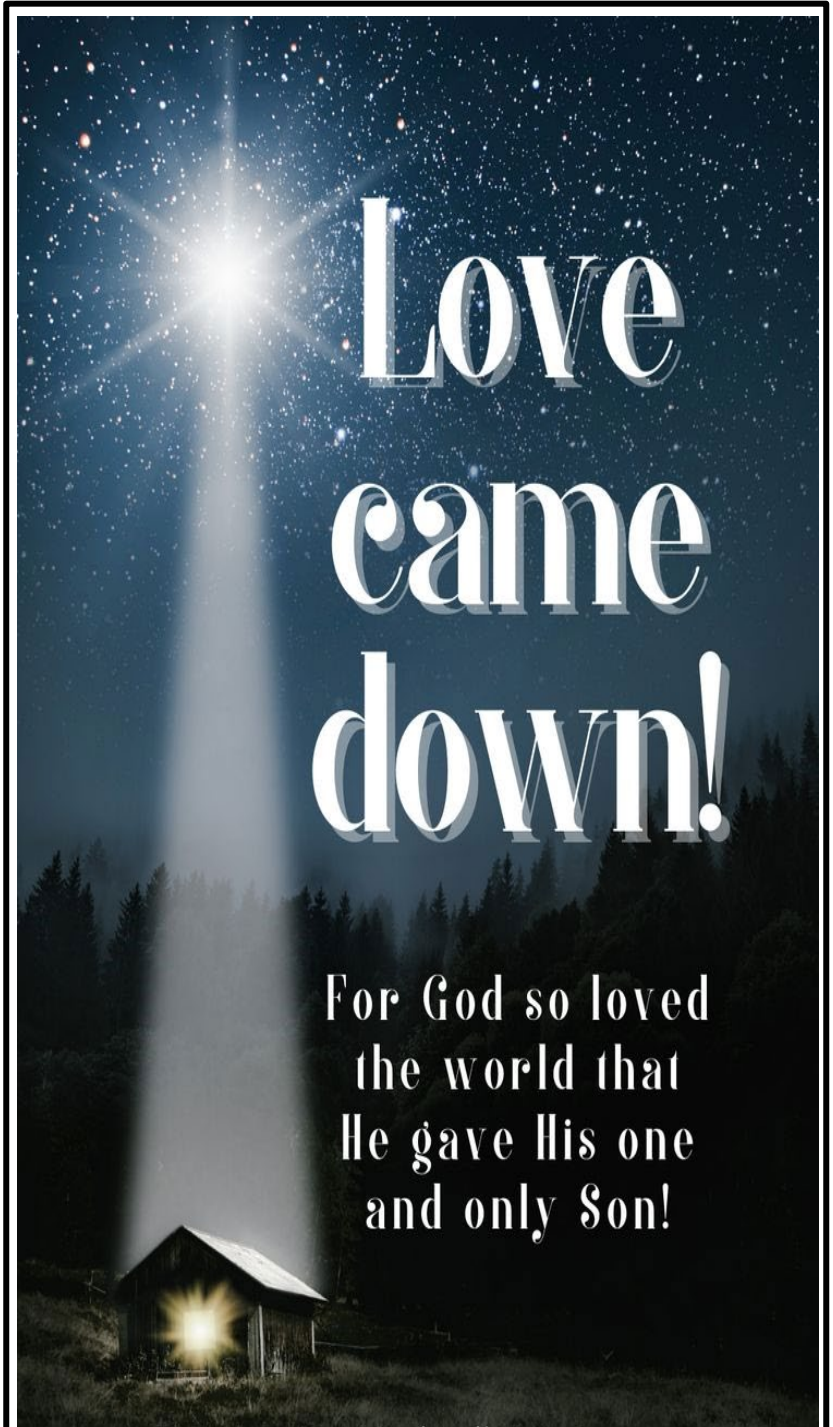
Facebook page: (St Paul Lutheran Church Hondo)

YouTube: (St Paul Lutheran Church Hondo TX)

Current and past Sunday services can be found here.

2024 Council Members

President	Wayne Scholtz
Vice President	Johnette Dixon
Secretary	Roberta Hennig
Treasurer	Pam Westbrook
Evangelism & Mission	Mark Nester
Education Chair	Jay Reed
Fellowship Chair	Robin Green
Property Chair	Stuart Franke
Lay Ministry Chair	Deb Cleary
Worship & Music Chair	Lynda Halbardier



Love came down!

For God so loved
the world that
He gave His one
and only Son!



The Red Brick Church on Ave M

‘Something happened today in the town of David.
Someone special was born. He is the one who
will save you. He is the Messiah. He is the Lord.’
Luke 2:11 EASY

Something happened. It is amazing how some thing,
one thing happening can change the course of a life
or the course of history. In the beginning something
happened; God created everything & deemed it very
good. But then something happened that changed our
relationship with God – we doubted God & instead
listened to the enemy from without & the enemy from
within. The result? Sin, separation, death. Life would be
without hope if we had to live forever with that result.
But something happened. Someone special was born –
the Messiah, the Savior of the world. In Christ, God
exchanges death for Life & guilt for righteousness. He
replaces despair with hope & the curse with a blessing.

“The very purpose of Christ’s coming into the world was
that He might offer up His life as a sacrifice for the sins
of men. He came to die. This is the heart of Christmas.” –
~ Billy Graham

I realize we still have one more month to go in the year
that is 2024, but what I have seen is that we all have had
something happen this year – some good, some not.
But because Someone Special was born to us, for us; is
Immanuel, God with us, we can have a peace, a strength,
a hope & a joy no matter those some things that happen.

May you & your family look to & rely on the Savior that
was born in Bethlehem , trust in the only perfect sacrifice
Who died on that cross outside Jerusalem & look
forward to with great anticipation & joy to the King Who
will come again for all to see. Some things happen, but
Someone Special was born & that changes everything!!



My sincere & heartfelt gratitude
for your kind words, cards & gifts
after the passing of my sister. Death
is never easy, but it does make us cling
even more to the Christ of Christmas
& the HOPE that was born to & for us.

The Gospel of Mark & the Advent of Christ

December 1: “Keeping Watch”

Psalm 33:13-20

Mark 13:24-37

*** Advent**

December 8: “A Great Light Has Dawned”

Psalm 27:1. 13-14

Isaiah 9:2-7

John 8:12

*** Advent**

*** Nursing Home Service**

December 15: “He Emptied Himself”

Psalm 115:1, 11-13

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 1:30-31

*** Advent**

*** Confirmation**

December 22: “The Spirit Will Rest Upon Him”

Isaiah 11:1-2

Isaiah 11:3-10

Matthew 11:28-29

*** Advent**

December 24: “We Have Seen His Glory”

Psalm 98:1-3

Revelation 19:11-16

Luke 2:6-14

***Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 6pm**

December 29: “But Jesus”

Psalm 73:23-26

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Mark 14:1-11

*Merry Christmas to you, my dear
brothers & sisters in Christ! With love,
Beverly <///><*

RESPONSIBILITIES

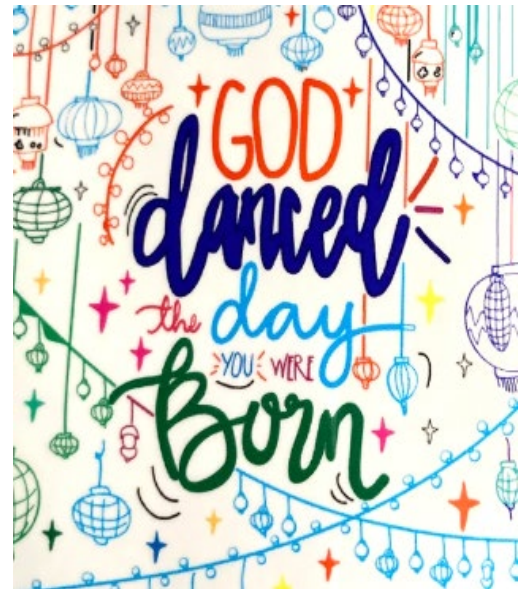
Date	December 1 st	December 8 th	December 15 th	December 22 nd	December 29 th
Altar Flowers	Derlin & Roberta Hennig	*Sponsor's name unknown, no info given	Chuck & Lynda Halbardier	Steve & Debra Zerr	Chuck & Lynda Halbardier
Sanctuary Lamp	Audrey Moncada	DeLaCruz Family	OPEN	OPEN	Johnette Dixon
Head Ushers	Lynda Halbardier Stuart Franke	Pam Westbrook Robin Green	Johnette Dixon Mark Nester	Johnette Dixon Deb Cleary	Roberta Hennig Wayne Scholtz
Lectors	Marilyn Graff	Erica Halbardier	Kim Anderwald	Dianne Bradley	Trudy Williams
Acolytes	Wyatt & Sage Voges	Nick & Jack Barlow	Easton Beard Clayton Nickols	Laura & Trey Denman	Klaire & Eli Bradshaw
Altar Guild	Janice Wright & Becky Scott				

DECEMBER 24th Christmas Eve Service - Ushers: Lynda Halbardier, Wayne Scholtz, Deb Cleary & Jay Reed
Acolytes: Adele Cortez & Kinslee Anderwald

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

12/01 Hannah Jones	12/16 Jacob Kelling
Angel Tellez	Jana Bendele
12/02 Cynthia Nester	12/17 Neva Saathoff
Justin Billings	12/18 Rick McCue
Kevin Dixon	12/19 Sherrill
12/03 Annette Billings	Nester
12/04 Carynn Jacobs	12/20 Margaret Reus
12/05 Alice Mumme	Chuck DeHaven
Eliana DeLaCruz	12/21 Zella Mae Mumme
12/06 Danica Lopez	Emma Maddox
12/07 Teresa Mumme	12/22 Zohnya Herbert
12/11 Chrie McCue	12/24 Tom Graff
12/12 Wesley Barlow	Tammy Reus
Joyce Krenmueller	Brice Terrill
12/13 Elaine Eccles	Bristol Dixon
Frances Bendele	12/26 Nicole Denman
12/14 Cambry Reus	Roberta Hennig
12/15 Michael Leinweber	12/27 Jennifer Weimers
Marilyn Graff	Makenna Adlong
Stacey Jacobs	Jacob Schweers
	12/30 Debbie Jacobs
	Kayleigh Lewis



December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 First Sunday of Advent 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School	2 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 6:00pm Journaling Study 7:00pm Men's Bible Study	3 7:00am Prayer Warriors 5:30pm-7pm Embrace Life	4 9am Quilters 9:30 Adult BSF Youth BSF Lunch "CAYA" 6pm Worship Service Youth following CAYA 7:00pm Bible Study	5 Office Closed 5:30pm-7pm Embrace Grace	6	7  Women's Advent Tea 2pm-4pm
8 Pick up Angel Tree Tags 9:00am Worship TACO SUNDAY 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School 2pm Nursing Home	9 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 1:30-3pm Friends In Faith 6:00pm Journaling Study	10 7:00am Prayer Warriors 5:30pm-7pm Embrace Life	11 9am Quilters 9:30 Adult BSF Youth BSF Lunch 6pm Children's Christmas Program Youth following CAYA 7:00pm Bible Study	12 Office Closed 5:30pm-7pm Embrace Grace	13 Newsletter Deadline	14
15 Return Angel Tree Gifts 9:00am Worship Installaion of council and officers 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School 2pm - 6pm Confirmation	16 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 6:00pm Journaling Study 7:00pm Men's Bible Study	17 7:00am Prayer Warriors 5:30pm-7pm Embrace Life 7:00pm Council Meeting	18 9am Quilters "Come As You Are" 6pm Worship Service Youth following CAYA 7:00pm Bible Study	19 Office Closed 5:30pm-7pm Embrace Grace 7pm Band of Brothers Meeting	20	21
22 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship Dessert Auction & Quilt Raffle 10:30 am Sunday School	23 Cornerstone 10am-2pm No FIF 6:00pm Journaling Study	24 7:00am Prayer Warriors Office open ½ day 6pm Christmas Eve Service 	25  Christmas Day Office Closed	26 Office Closed 5:30pm-7pm Embrace Grace	27 Council Annual Reports Due	28
29 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School	30 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 6:00pm Journaling Study	31 7:00am Prayer Warriors 5:30pm-7pm Embrace Life	New Year's Day Office Closed			



Youth and Children of St. Paul

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 each Wednesday

After School Bible Studies

4-6th will be 1st & 3rd –

K-3rd will be 2nd & 4th

from 4 to 5:15 pm

NO K-6TH GRADE IN DECEMBER



Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 11th at the 6 pm Worship Service. Any children are welcome to participate in the Christmas Program (even if you don't attend Sunday School) We have one rehearsal on Sunday, Dec. 8th @ 5 pm. If you are a youth and would like to play a song in the beginning we will practice Dec. 8th @ 6:30 pm. 3rd Graders will receive their Bibles on this night.

Do you have questions.....

You can contact

Laurie @ 210-213-2088 or

Jacob @ 830-741-1045



XL XXVIII XIX



St. Paul Children & Youth will be having a Pizza Night @ Dominos Watch the bulletin for the exact date. Thank you in advance for your support. This is for the Hondo Location only.

TACO SUNDAY is the 2nd Sunday of the month. The youth and children thank each of you who support this fundraiser monthly.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Confirmation Dates

Dec 15th

Jan 19th (Frio)

Feb 16th

March 16th

April 27th Confirmation Sunday

Remember to complete your sermon notes



Our Annual Dessert Auction will be on Sunday, December 22nd during Fellowship Time. Great event to get great homemade desserts just in time to take to your Christmas celebrations.

Campers have your beautifully displayed desserts to the Activity Center by 8:45 am. Each camper who brings a dessert will get 100 % of the bid. All purchased desserts will have to be picked up on that Sunday. Thank you in advance for your support.

Quilt Raffle

Benefitting the young people who are going to Camp Eagle Summer 2025!

Beautiful "Hand Quilted" Quilt
\$1 each or 6 for \$5

Drawing will be held Sunday, December 22nd at the dessert auction

Thank you for your generous support. God bless.

Upcoming Important Dates

- Dec 8-Taco Sunday
- Christmas Program Rehearsal 5 pm
- Dec. 11th – Christmas Program/3rd graders receive their Bibles
- Dec 15th – Confirmation
- Christmas Caroling 6 pm
- Jan 12th -Taco Sunday
- Feb 9th Taco Sunday
- Feb 23-27th Rummage Sale Drop off
- Feb 28 & Mar 1st – Rummage Sale
- March 5th – Ash Wednesday – Soup & Sandwiches begin
- March 9th -Taco Sunday
- April 13th -Taco Sunday
- April 13th – Palm Sunday/Easter Egg Hunt/ Potato Bar Fundraiser
- April 27th – Confirmation Sunday
- May 11th – Taco Sunday
- May 18th – Senior Sunday / Baccalaureate
- June 9-13th – VBS
- July 14-19th -Camp Eagle

Camp Eagle 2025

The dates have been set- July 14-19th The cost will stay the same HW - \$725 and Group Camp - \$549 St. Paul will continue to help with the cost if you volunteer. Contact Laurie if you are interested in attending in 2025. You can email or text us.



Rummage SaleThe date has been set – Feb 28th & March 1st. We will start taking your treasures on Sunday, Feb 23rd.

Thank you very much to Benny and Heather Flores for organizing the float for the Christmas in God's Country Parade. It was amazing.

Sunday School
(10:30am-11:15am)
3yr old-12th grade:



3-5 yr. old's–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 Groups:

Study of Hebrews
led by Bob Mayne (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.)

“James” (YAK Class Rm, Ed. Bldg.)

“And never stop praying.” ~ 1Thessalonians 5:17

Healing & Comfort:

Larry Stewart, Bobby Klein, Margaret Reus, Buffie Rogge, Matthew Hook, Lynda Hook, Josie Rendon, Henry Nietenhoefer, George Brucks, Diane Cooper, Sandi Schweers, Helen Ann Jones, Sharon Becksted, Cindy Sprenger, Debbie Southwell, Joleen Neuman, Patricia Welch, Sabrina Drake & Susan Bendele.

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

Active Military:

Larry & Teresa Sullivan, Adriel Schoenhals, Patrick Green, Andy Lynch, Riley Lynch, Clayton Reed, Les Armstrong, Ethan Kammer, Heath Runnels, Collin Bezely, Sean Constante, Dylan Neuman & Jimmy Sawyer Rhodes. Thank you Lord for our military.

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

Weekday 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
Currently in Hebrews

Mondays at 6 PM

Journaling – Roberta Hennig (Education Bldg -turtle Room)

Tuesdays at 6 PM *Beginning again January 7th

Topical Study: The Dragon’s Prophecy – Cynthia Nester
(Lion’s Den)

Wednesday at 7pm (Following CAYA)

Through the Bible teaching, studying about prophesy and much that has yet to be fulfilled. Currently in Judges
Led by David Hershberger (Activity Center – In class next to the kitchen).

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)

Children/Youth Bible Study Opportunities

Kinder-3rd Grade: Off in December, resumes January

4th-6th Grade: Off in December, resumes January

Wednesday High School Lunch Bible Study

11:38am -12:18pm - see the church calendar for dates

Youth – See calendar & bulletin

Wednesday 7 to 8:15 pm

following Come As You Are Service.

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 Marian Lindeburg

Castroville Nursing Home

913 US-90, Castroville, TX 78009

Mario Salazar

Shut-Ins (call office for address)

Gladys Feller

Kathy Feller

Elaine Eccles

Pye Haass

HERE AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

Join us during Fellowship December 1st to celebrate Dr. Bob and Grace Reed's 70th Wedding Anniversary with donuts and wedding cake. What a milestone and testament to a strong marriage!

Mark Your Calendar

- December 7th – Advent Tea
- December 8th – Angel Tree tag pick up
- December 11th – Children's Christmas Program 6pm
- December 15th – Return Angel Tree gifts
- December 22nd – Quilt raffle & dessert raffle
- December 24th – Office open ½ day, Christmas Eve Service 6pm
- December 25th – Christmas Day – Office Closed
- January 1st – Office Closed



**Upcoming
Advent Tea
Saturday,
December 7th
from 2:00pm-4:00pm**

The Women of St. Paul will be hosting a Christmas Advent Tea for the women of the church. This is a great way to start the Christmas Season. If you would like to decorate a table or have questions you may call Carol DeHaven (830) 426-7041. Women of St. Paul will also be revealing their 2024 Prayer Pals and drawing names for 2025. If you are unable to attend the Advent Tea, please bring your Prayer Pal gift to the church office by Friday, December 6th. If you are already in the program, you will automatically be put in again for the next year, but if you have any changes or want to be added contact Debbie Whitehead at (210) 414-1005.

“COME AS YOU ARE”

6pm Worship Service

- December 4th – Joann Neuman
- December 11th – Children's Program
- December 18th – OPEN
- December 25th – Christmas Day
No Worship Service
- January 1st - OPEN

YEAR END GIVING

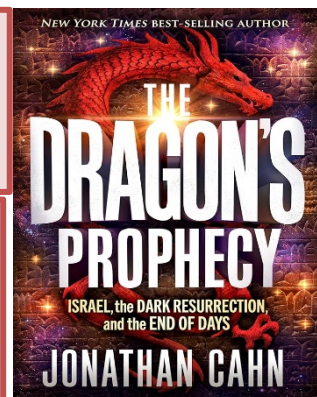
Last day for Year End Giving in the office is Friday, December 27th or Sunday, December 29th in the offering. Please give your offering before or by these dates. This is so our financial secretary has the ability to process and deposit your gift before the end of the year to get your 2024 tax donation credit.

Opportunity to participate and adopt a child for the Angel Tree program is coming soon. Angel Tree will be up on December 8th and gifts must be returned by the next Sunday, December 15th. If you have any questions contact Sandy Faseler (210) 413-1632



“Is it possible that what we see taking place at the end of the age is the answer to ancient revelation? Cahn explores the mystery of our times, the events shaking our world, and what lies in store in the days to come - enabling you to see what is taking place in an entirely new way.”

I'm excited to announce our new study of Jonathan Cahn's latest book - the Dragon's Prophecy, which will begin on Tuesday, January 7th 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Lion's Den Classroom in the Legacy Life Building. The book is available for purchase at Christian Book.com, Amazon, Walmart and many other book retailers. Please let me know if you plan on attending, so that I can have plenty of folders and handouts ready. – Cynthia Nester For additional information call Cynthia @ 210.862.0038



December Special Offering –

Cornerstone Assistance Network (CAN)

Cornerstone Assistance Network of Hondo is a nonprofit, Christian based organization that provides financial assistance and spiritual support to people in the Hondo area. It is funded by donations from individuals and from some of our local churches that are members of the Hondo Ministerial Alliance. The goal of Cornerstone is to walk alongside people to help with immediate needs, while providing appropriate resources for support & sustainability. By providing a central place to help the needy, Cornerstone is able to provide generous yet responsible stewardship over the resources entrusted to them by the Hondo community.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Beverly Kelling and Pam Westbrook

FRANKLIN GRAHAM
P.O. BOX 3000, BOONE, NC 28607

November 12, 2024

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your very generous gift of \$11,000 to Samaritan's Purse for U.S. Disaster Relief. We are truly grateful for your prayers and partnership as we help people whose lives have been turned upside down.

Hurricane Helene was the worst storm that anyone in this region can remember—the devastation is unbelievable and will require years of recovery. Our disaster relief teams are working to help hurting people in Western North Carolina, Eastern Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida. Staff and volunteers are cleaning mud and waterlogged material out of homes, cutting up fallen trees, tarping damaged roofs, and much more. Over 30,000 volunteers have come alongside us so far, and many more will be needed in the coming months. We flew over 350 helicopter missions to deliver critical supplies to storm victims in isolated areas and have trucked in more than 200 loads of necessities to communities in the area as roads have become more passable. We also opened an additional site in Florida to help hundreds more families whose homes were damaged by Hurricane Milton, and we have just deployed teams to Oklahoma City to help families impacted by tornadoes.

Please pray with us for those who are hurting. As we bring relief in Jesus' Name, we want to share God's love and the hope of the Gospel. "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:17). May God bless you.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham

FG/br

Saint Paul Lutheran Church
1303 Avenue M
PO Box 58
Hondo, TX 78861-0058

THANK YOU!

Dear friends at St. Paul Lutheran,
Thank you for your October Sunday School Offering to Restore Reproductive Health. Your steadfast support of our efforts is so appreciated & enables us to meet needs for people coming to us in difficult circumstances.
As Thanksgiving nears, know that y'all are at the top of our list of things (people) for whom we are so thankful. God bless you yours!
Sincerely, Diane Coogre
Executive Director



Texas District

Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



HARVEST
WORKERS

Cheering on a Comeback

Like most sports fans, I love a good comeback! There's nothing quite like when a team mounts a comeback after falling hopelessly behind. It is thrilling to experience how the players, coaches, and fans rally to support one another and celebrate each step along the way just to get back into a position to potentially be victorious!

Recently, my wife and I came back: After a six-month absence from the church we attend when in town, we were finally able to come back to worship on a Sunday morning this month. Life and ministry commitments had us on the road since Easter and we truly missed the church that had become family to us. But the comeback we experienced was not personally thrilling for me. Instead, I sheepishly walked through those doors, wondering what people were thinking of us after all this time. I even found myself saying "the prodigals have returned" to one of my friends.

As I began to process it, my experience really bothered me. Why did I feel this way? No one was judgmental at all. Not one person asked, "where have you been?" Many greeted us with joyous expressions of welcome. So why did I, a minister of the Gospel who should definitely know better, feel such guilt and shame? And if I had this intense struggle, for how many others might similar feelings be an obstacle to coming back to church?

As we approach Advent and Christmas, we are more likely to encounter people who may not be in the pattern of attending church regularly. Many may be struggling with intense feelings of guilt and shame even thinking about returning to worship. Some of these feelings may get projected onto other church members, like my thinking we would be judged or looked down on. Other feelings might be more of an internal spiritual battle. Regardless, it is mission-critical for the church to cheer on the comeback.

If you haven't been active in church lately, I want my experience to be an encouragement for you. While the devil will use every trick he can to keep you away from the life-giving experience of a faith community gathered around word and sacrament, trust that God desires your presence and participation. I am confident that you will encounter a loving, welcoming reception by your church family who will celebrate your presence.

If you are a regular worshipper, please enthusiastically support and encourage any and all comebacks! Begin to pray daily for the Holy Spirit to gather those whom the Lord calls to come back to worship. Pray for God to bring to mind specific people to pray for and encourage. Perhaps God is leading you to reach out to someone. Be mindful to not inadvertently contribute to any feelings of guilt or shame. Instead, take an interest in them out of genuine love. Offer to meet for coffee or lunch. Find out what's going on in their lives and how you can pray for them. Consider inviting them to a special event, small group, or service project that gives the opportunity for casual, relational connection. And most importantly, when you see someone new or that you haven't seen for some time, warmly welcome them and simply let them know you are so happy to see them. These simple actions can make a difference as we cheer on a comeback!

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.

WINTER RETREAT

One Another

February 2-4 or 5-7, 2025

Concan, Texas

\$120 - early bird pricing
*includes meals and lodging

Choose from 2 tracks:
Leadership or Devotional

*"A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another."*

John 13:34

Same great Texas District Winter Retreat with all the benefits of the LCMC LeaderCare initiative.



Scan for more info and registration.

www.lcmctexas.org/winter-retreat

GIVING TUESDAY

December 3, 2024

#GivingTuesday, created in 2012, is a global movement that encourages people to do good. Stay tuned for details on how you can help support the missions of the Texas District & Harvest Workers through our 2024 GivingTuesday event.

Join us in making a difference!



www.lcmctexas.org/giving-tuesday