

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



DECEMBER
2025

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,
David Hershberger, Ben Rath, Robert Schildt,
Becky Burton & Anna Weimer.

Services

Sunday, 9:00am

Wednesday, “Come As You Are” 6:00pm

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.

2025 Council Members

President	Wayne Scholtz
Vice President	Johnette Dixon
Secretary	Jenny Lessing
Treasurer	Pam Westbrook
Evangelism & Mission	Stephanie Laughinghouse
Education Chair	Jay Reed
Fellowship Chair	Robin Green
Property Chair	Derlin Hennig
Lay Ministry Chair	Deb Cleary
Worship & Music Chair	Lynda Halbardier





The Red Brick Church on Ave M



**'For unto us
a Child is born,**

**Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will
be upon His shoulder.**

**And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**⁷ Of the increase of His government and
peace There will be no end, Upon the throne
of David and over His kingdom, To order it and
establish it with judgment and justice From that
time forward, even forever. The zeal of the
Lord of hosts will perform this.'**

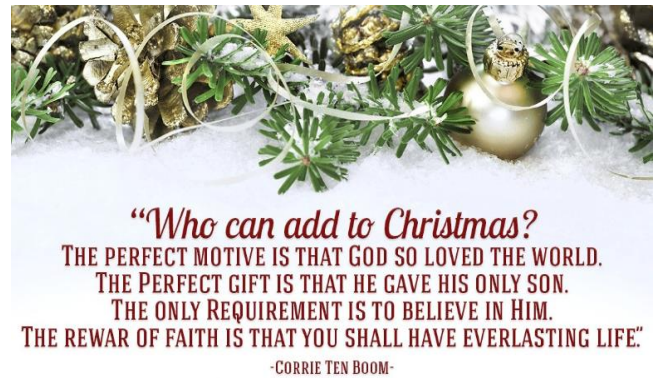
Isaiah 9:6-7 NKJV

The Christmas season is crazy & hectic – the Christmas message is not. Before time began, God knew where we would be; He knew we would need a Savior; He knew there would only be One Who could save the world through love. As Max Lucado says: 'The story of Christmas is the story of God's relentless love for us.'

This Christmas I'm hoping in the midst of all the school activities, work events, shopping, wrapping, cooking, baking, cleaning, family schedules & personalities, etc., etc. we all will take a step back, breathe in a big breath, exhale & enjoy the simple message of the true meaning of Christmas: God's GREAT LOVE FOR YOU come down from heaven.

"God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent His One and Only Son into the world so that we might live through Him." 1 John 4:9

Thank you to Jay Reed and Robin Green for their service on council as Education & Fellowship Chair. Well Done!



God's Presence for Christmas

December 7: Joy for Christmas

Psalm 28:6-9

Isaiah 49:13-16

Luke 1:5-17

Advent

December 12: Children's Christmas Program – 6p

December 14: Faith for Christmas

Psalm 33 select verses

Hebrews 11:1-3

Luke 1:26-38

Advent

***Installation of 2026 Council
& Committee Members**

***Nursing Home Service**

December 21: Peace for Christmas

Psalm 4:1-3, 8

Isaiah 26:3-4

Matthew 1:18-25

Advent

***Confirmation**

December 24: Home for Christmas

Revelation 21:3-5a

Luke 1:1-21

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 6:00p

December 28: Wisdom Beyond Christmas

Psalm 111:1-2, 3-4

Deuteronomy 4:5-9

Matthew 2:1-12

*'Glory to God in the Highest & on earth peace
to men on whom His favor rests.'*

*In Christ & with love,
Beverly <///><*

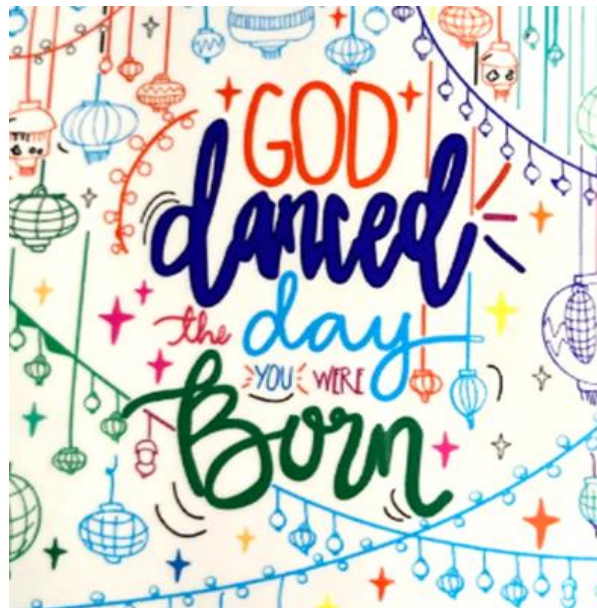
RESPONSIBILITIES

Date	December 7th	December 14th	December 21st	DECEMBER 24th	December 28th
Altar Flowers	DeLaCruz & Tellez Families	Ronald & Sarah Bailey	Patt Farness	Poinsettias	OPEN
Sanctuary Lamp	Audrey Moncada	David & Ollie Hershberger	Patt Farness	_____	Derlin & Roberta Hennig
Head Ushers	Deb Cleary Jay Reed	Wayne Scholtz Jenny Lessing	Lynda Halbardier Derlin Hennig	Robin, Pam, Jenny Lynda & Wayne	Johnette Dixon Stephanie Laughinghouse
Lectors	Ayelet Reus	Kim Anderwald	Marilyn Graff	Janice Wright	Bob Mayne
Acolytes	Claire Bowman Addie Beard	Mackenzie & Sandy Collins	Kaylee Torres Landon Cortez	Baylee Graff & Kinslee Anderwald	Easton Hennessey Luke Lamprecht
Altar Guild	Jean Saathoff & Jenny lessing				

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
Angel Tellez
12/02 Cynthia Nester
Justin Billings
Kevin Dixon
12/03 Annette Billings
12/04 Carynn Jacobs
12/05 Eliana DeLaCruz
Alice Mumme
12/06 Danica Lopez
12/07 Wren Christiansen
Teresa Mumme
12/09 Naomi Carvajal
12/11 Chrie McCue
12/12 Joyce Krenmueller
12/13 Frances Bendele
Elaine Eccles
12/14 Cambry Reus
12/15 Marilyn Graff



12/16 Janna Bendele
Jacob Kelling
12/17 Neva Saathoff
12/18 Rick McCue
12/19 Sherril Nester
12/20 Chuck DeHaven
Margaret Reus
12/21 Emma Maddox
Zella Mae Mumme
12/24 Tom Graff
Tammy Reus
Brice Terrill
12/26 Nicole Denman
Roberta Hennig
12/27 Makenna Adlong
Jacob Schweers
Jennifer Wiemers
12/30 Debbie Jacobs
Kayleigh Lewis

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 7:00pm Men's Bible Study	2 7:00am Prayer Warriors 7:00pm Bible Journaling	3 Women's BSF Quilters Highschool BSF Lunch 4pm-5:15pm 4 th - 6 th Bible Study 6pm CAYA Worship Youth following worship 7pm Bible Study (A/C)	4	5 Office Closed	6  Advent Tea 2pm – 4pm
7 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School Angel Tree Pick-up	8 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 1:30-3pm Friends In Faith	9 7:00am Prayer Warriors 7:00pm Bible Journaling	10 Women's BSF Quilters Highschool BSF Lunch 4pm-5:15pm K – 3 rd Bible Study 6pm Children's Program Youth following worship 7pm Bible Study (A/C)	11 7pm Band of Brothers (A/C) Last Day for Blue Santa drop off by noon	12 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline	13
14 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School Angel Tree Drop-off 2pm Nursing Home	15 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 7:00pm Men's Bible Study	16 7:00am Prayer Warriors 7:00pm Bible Journaling 7pm Council Meeting	17 Women's BSF Highschool BSF Lunch No Bible Study 6pm CAYA Worship Youth following CAYA 7pm Bible Study (A/C)	18	19 Office Closed	20
21 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School	22 Cornerstone 10am-2pm No Friends In Faith	23 7:00am Prayer Warriors 7:00pm Bible Journaling	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed 6pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 	25 Closed For Christmas Day 	26 Office Closed	27
28 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School	29	30	31 Open ½ Day for New Year's Eve	Closed For New Year's Day		



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

Thank you very much for ALL who helped make Breakfast with Santa a success. It is always a fun community event. Thank you Santa for taking time out to come visit the kids.



Our Annual Dessert Auction will be on Sunday, December 21st 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.



Christmas Program Wednesday, December 10th at the 6 pm Worship Service. Any children are welcome to participate in the Christmas Program (even if you don't attend Sunday School) 4-6th graders are narrators and 3rd and under are in costume. We have one rehearsal on Sunday, Dec. 7th @ 5 pm. If you are a youth and would like to play or sing please let Jeanette know.

3rd Graders will receive their Bibles on this night. And each family will be receiving a special gift!



Camp Eagle 2026

The dates have been set - **Tuesday, June 2nd** **Saturday, June 6th** Yes **VERY different** dates than in years past. The cost will HW - \$625 and Group Camp - \$479 You will be **REQUIRED** to turn in a **\$150 deposit** to hold your spot. St. Paul will continue to help with the cost if you volunteer with various fundraisers/events. Contact Jacob or Laurie if you are interested in attending in 2026. You can email or text one of us.. If you put \$50 away each month the total doesn't seem to overwhelm you and your family.



Our Annual Church Rummage Sale date has changed.....It will be on Feb 6th & 7th, 2026. We will start collecting treasures on Sunday, February 1st ! Start cleaning out those closets, storerooms, and attics over the holidays. Spread the word to the community.

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



XL.XXVIII.XIX

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Confirmation Dates
 Dec 15th
 Jan 18th (Frio)
 Feb 15th
 March 15th
April 19th Confirmation Sunday
 Remember to complete your sermon notes

Upcoming Important Dates

Wed, Dec 3rd 4-6th Bible Study
Sun, Dec. 7th Christmas Program Rehearsal 5-6 pm
Wed, Dec.10th -K-3rd Bible Study
 Christmas Program 6 pm / 3rd graders receive their BIBLES
Sunday, Dec 21st Dessert/Art Auction during Fellowship & Confirmation
Feb 1-5th Rummage Sale Drop off
Feb 6 & 7th - Rummage Sale
Feb 18th - Ash Wednesday - Soup & Sandwiches begin
March 29th - Palm Sunday/Easter Egg Hunt
April 19th - Confirmation Sunday
May 17th - Senior Sunday / Baccalaureate
June 2-6th - Camp Eagle
June 15-19th -VBS



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

Children/Youth Bible Study Opportunities

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

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

Wednesday High School Lunch Bible Study Fellowship

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 Small Sunday 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.)

Study of “Romans” (YAK Class Rm, Ed. Bldg.)

Adult Bible Study Opportunities:

First and Third Mondays at 7 PM

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

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)

Tuesdays 6pm (LLB)

Topical Studies led by Cynthia Nester

*Resuming in January ~ “Know Your Enemy” – Ephesians 5:11

Wednesday at 7pm (Following CAYA)

Through the Bible teaching, studying about prophesy
and much that has yet to be fulfilled. Currently in 2 Kings
jump in & join in anytime, led by David Hershberger
(Activity Center – Behind the kitchen).

Healing & Comfort:

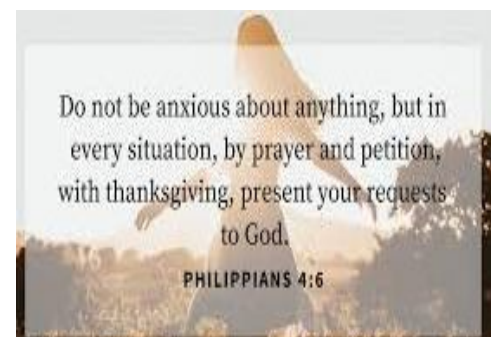
John Massengale, Larry Stewart, Bobby Klein, Cassidy Reus, Bill Reus, Margaret Reus, Buffie Rogge, Howard Saathoff, Henry Nietenhoefer, George Brucks, Sandi Schweers, Helen Ann Jones, Howard Saathoff, Sharon Becksted, Cindy Sprenger, Claude Cosgrove, Sandee Cotton, Julie Murphy & Jeanne Mortillaro.

*(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, Andy Lynch, Riley Lynch, Les Armstrong, Collin Beazely, Heath Runnels, Sean Constante, Madelyn Acosta, Will Winchester, Dylan Neuman & Jimmy Rhodes.

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



HERE AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Upcoming Advent Tea Saturday, December 6th from 2:00pm-4:00pm

The Women of St. Paul will be hosting a Christmas Advent Tea for the women of the church. The tables will be elegantly set and decorated for an afternoon tea. 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.

We will be revealing the current years' prayer pals at the advent tea and drawing new names for the upcoming year. We also bring a little something for the pal that you had for the reveal. Also if you are currently in, your name will automatically be in for a new year. If anyone has questions or wants your name added for the upcoming year please reach out to me.

Thank you, Debbie Whitehead (210) 414-1005



Opportunity to participate and adopt a child for the Angel Tree program is coming soon. There are 10 families with a total of 21 children. Angel Tree will be up on December 7th and gifts must be returned by the following Sunday, December 14th. If you have any questions please contact Kara Cranfill at (832) 561-1695

Looking Ahead

December 6th – Advent Tea (A/C) 2pm-4pm

December 10th – Children's Christmas Program 6pm, Children arrive by 5:30pm

December 24th – Christmas Eve - **Office Closed** & **6pm Candlelight Service**

December 25th - Christmas Day – **Office closed**

December 31st – New Year's Eve – **Office open ½ day (9am-12pm)**

January 1st – New Year's Day – **Office closed**

February 6th - 7th – Rummage Sale

We are also a Blue Santa Toy Drive drop off location. (Church Office) This is a project that the Hondo Police Dept. has and services families right here in Hondo as well. Nov.19th – Dec.11th



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

Community Care Nursing Home Shut-Ins mailing address

2001 Avenue E Hondo, TX 78861
Brian Boehle Elaine Eccles

Gladys Feller
8358 Slippery Rock
San Antonio, TX 78251

Castroville Nursing Home

913 US-90, Castroville, TX 78009
Mario Salazar

Kathy Feller
385 N Ranch Rd 187
Sabinal, TX 78881

Changing Seasons

1687 Old Hwy 90
Castroville, TX 78009
Henry Nietenhoefner

Rosa "Pye" Haass
135 Plaza Drive Apt#307
Kerrville, TX 78028

Anjie Clifton is planning to start a new EVENING Bible study in January of 2026 for both men and women alike! If you have been wanting this kind of class, please let Anjie, Joann or Beverly know which evening would work best for you as we want this to capture as many who are interested!



New Topical Study ~
"Know Your Enemy"
to begin in
January Tuesday evenings @
6pm. For more details call
Cynthia Nester (210) 862-0038
or Joann Neuman at the church
office with any questions.

"COME AS YOU ARE"

6pm Worship Service

December 3rd – Anjie Clifton

December 10th – Children's Program

December 17th – Country Christmas
Celebration

December 24th – Christmas Eve

December 31st – New Years Eve Open Mic

*If you are interested in giving a Wednesday night message next year please speak with Pastor Beverly or call the office (830) 426-3222.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
is looking for a part-time Maintenance/Grounds Steward.
If you are interested come by the office and pick-up a job
description & drop off your resume to the office.

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



Dear faithful friends at St. Paul Lutheran,
We can't begin to tell you how much your monthly Sunday School offering donations to Restore Reproductive Health mean to us. Knowing that you care about the work we do & the mommas, the daddies & the babies we serve is so encouraging. Your gifts help make possible the programs we have to make a difference in these people's lives. May you be blessed now & as we go into the Holy Season of Christmas.
Thankfully, Diane Cosgrove, Exec. Dir.

Dear Friends at St. Paul Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the children we serve at Bluebonnet Children's Advocacy Center, I wish to express our deepest appreciation for your generous donation of \$400.00 (Check #14871) which we received to support our work.

Our mission is to lessen the trauma and improve the response to young victims of child abuse and neglect. We provide FREE therapy, art and play therapy for healing, and necessary resources such as clothing, toiletries, diapers, school supplies, etc. I deeply appreciate your trust in our ability and commitment to fulfill this mission.

YOUR gift will support our successful programs to assist our community's most vulnerable — our children — and help them find a better quality of life and a brighter, safer future.

Thank YOU and YOUR congregation for helping us help the children in crisis! Together WE can make a difference!

Respectfully,

Edward Gentry,
Executive Director

Dear Friends at St. Paul Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the children we serve at Bluebonnet Children's Advocacy Center, I wish to express our deepest appreciation for your generous donation of \$200.00 (Check #14901) which we received to support our work.

Our mission is to lessen the trauma and improve the response to young victims of child abuse and neglect. We provide FREE therapy, art and play therapy for healing, and necessary resources such as clothing, toiletries, diapers, school supplies, etc. I deeply appreciate your trust in our ability and commitment to fulfill this mission.

YOUR gift will support our successful programs to assist our community's most vulnerable — our children — and help them find a better quality of life and a brighter, safer future.

Thank YOU and YOUR congregation for helping us help the children in crisis! Together WE can make a difference!

Respectfully,

Edward Gentry,
Executive Director



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



Generosity: A Spiritual Discipline

I enjoy personal and organizational financial planning and take pride in managing financial affairs well in order to make the most of the resources available. When I think about stewardship, first and foremost in my mind is God's call to be wise and faithful managers. Yet within the realm of stewardship lies a practice that runs against the grain and can almost seem contradictory and foolish. This is the practice of generosity.

Generosity is freely giving resources away without any expectation of return or personal benefit. Biblically, we understand that generosity included sharing resources in common with other members of a local church; giving cheerfully to missions; tithing (giving a tenth of one's increase) to the local community of worship; and caring for the poor, the hungry, the orphans, and the widows. In our human way of thinking, it doesn't really make sense to give away that which we "worked hard for" or at least worked hard to manage well. But in God's economy, generosity is a key practice in a faithful, trusting walk following Jesus as his disciples.

Years ago, I attended church men's group where a member of my congregation shared something profound. When we were talking about tithing, he shared that he believed that God chose 10% completely on purpose to develop our trust in God. He reasoned that had God called us to give a smaller percentage, our human self-reliance would likely kick-in with the Devil leading us to think we could "handle it" on our own. But this isn't the case with a call to give 10%. The call to tithe compels us to trust God. It is too much for us to do apart from trusting God each day to give us our daily bread. The spiritual discipline of generosity helps to break us from our sin of self-reliance.

There are many other good things that come about when we practice generosity. Another that comes to mind is how God tends to multiply our offerings, sometimes in miraculous ways. Consider the story of the feeding of the 5,000. Jesus took the gift of one boy's lunch and then instructed the disciples to be generous with it and share the food with the crowds. In their faithful generosity, the Lord multiplied the small offering and created an abundance that to this day still amazes us. But this is what God does with our generosity.

Friends, I would like to encourage you to be good stewards and manage your financial affairs with wisdom and faithfulness. And I also invite you to consider anew Jesus' call to the spiritual discipline of generosity: Tithe to your local church, give cheerfully to missions and causes that align with your faith, and care for the basic human needs in your local community and beyond as the Lord gives you opportunity.

Giving Tuesday is December 2, a day dedicated to celebrating and encouraging generosity. This is a great time to make new commitments to grow in generosity. If you would like to contribute to the mission of LCMC Texas District or Harvest Workers, go to www.lcmctexas.org/giving-tuesday to find out how to double your donation.

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.

© 2025 Bryce J. Formwalt, All Rights Reserved. Reprinted with permission.

