

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

MARCH 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

Preparation: 3 Ways to Be Prepared ~ Robyn Rison Chapman

Be Prepared: Stay prayed up

I often think of the Apostle Paul’s words in **Philippians 4:6**, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

Prayer is an answer in all situations.

First, it brings God to the table. Second, it acknowledges that I am not the one. God is.

Having God in the proper place is the first step to being prepared for situations that come up. Praying about everything keeps the line of communication open. We don’t have to wait for those desperate moments and then wonder how to pray or if God is listening.

If we’re staying prayed up daily, then we are naturally prepared because of that consistent communication and better discernment that follows.

When we make prayer a daily habit, it is easier on the hard days.

Be Prepared: Stay suited up

In **Ephesians 6** we learn about the armor of God.

“Put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness.

For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.”

Can you imagine a football player coming to the field for a game wearing a suit, tie, and dress shoes? Of course not.

He would likely get hurt without the padding and helmet. He would struggle to run and move as needed without the proper footwear. He sure wouldn’t look like he belonged with his team.

The time to fully suit up is before you step out on the field, not when you get out there and realize that you’re not in a good position to have success.

The same can be said of us in our Christian walk.

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.

Much like that football player, if we enter battle with the enemy not properly prepared, we’re as good as defeated before it starts.

The belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, shoes of readiness, a shield of faith, a helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit make up the uniform we need to wear every day.

We don’t get to show up, call timeout, and then run back home to get ready.

Stay suited up.

Be Prepared: Stay read up

The final piece of armor, the sword of the Spirit is the Word of God.

Not only is Scripture our weapon, but it is also our game plan. It is the instruction manual God has given us.

-We must stay read up.

-We must be studying God’s word for ourselves every day.

-We must do more than just take other people’s word for it and more than just read the words. We’ve got to dig in for ourselves. Secondhand information does not equal good preparation.

That doesn’t mean we dismiss a good sermon or corporate Bible study, but we should consistently be reading and studying to discern and allow God to reveal Himself to us.

Friends, preparation is a key to successfully navigating a life lived for Christ. Be prepared and willing to put in the work when there’s no glory to be found.



The Red Brick Church on Ave M

Something is happening. There is unrest in Mexico in reaction to a kingpin's death. The Epstein files reveal a depravity we could not have imagined. Corruption is being discovered at levels that causes us to shake our head in disgust & disbelief. We can become discouraged as we see these things; but consider this: the masks are coming off. Light is exposing what has tried to stay concealed in the darkness. The Bible tells us in **Ephesians 5:6-13:**

'Let no one deceive you with empty words ... Walk as children of light— ... do not have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness; instead, expose them. ... For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things are exposed when they are revealed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light.'

Closer to home perhaps we may be dealing with loneliness, our own health & financial concerns, loved ones we care for, work to get done, kids with school & schedules that keep us going; the list goes on. It can all be overwhelming *until we remember:*

SomeOne HAS come. Jesus has come to us as God in the flesh in the darkness, in the middle of it all, HE IS THE LIGHT of the world, Who exposes evil, reveals truth & lights the way for us to walk.

'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.' **John 1:5**

Our 'Living the Crucified Life' Lent Series continues:

Lent Series: The Crucified Life (A.W. Tozer)

March 4: Obstacles to Living the Crucified Life

Lent – Don Krumrey

March 11: Veils that Obscure God's Face

Lent – Roberta Crowley-Hennig

March 18: The Beauty of Contradictions

Lent – David Hook

March 25: The Purpose of the Refiner's Fire

Lent – Laurie Lentz



April 2 @ 6:00p we will offer a true Seder Meal led by Rabbi Baruch. The experience will be in the Activity Center & includes a meal. Plan on 2 ½ hours
We request an RSVP ~ more details to come!

Prepare for Your Messiah: Realities

March 1: For This Very Reason I Came

Psalm 25:11-14

Isaiah 1:18-20

John 12:20-33

March 8: It Is Good for Us to be Here

Psalm 34:7-9

Exodus 19:9

2 Peter 1:12-19

Luke 9:28-37

***Nursing Home Service**

***WWJSTX Gathering**

March 15: Many Will Turn Away

Psalm 146:6-7

Isaiah 55:10-11

John 6:51-71

***Confirmation**

March 22: The Devil Among Us

Psalm 55:13-14

2 Corinthians 11:12-14

Matthew 26:14-16, 20-25

Luke 22:3-6

John 13:2, 27-30

March 29: When Darkness Came

Psalm 107:13-15

Isaiah 50:3-7

Matthew 27:45-54

Palm Sunday

'But in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us!'

In Christ, Beverly <///><

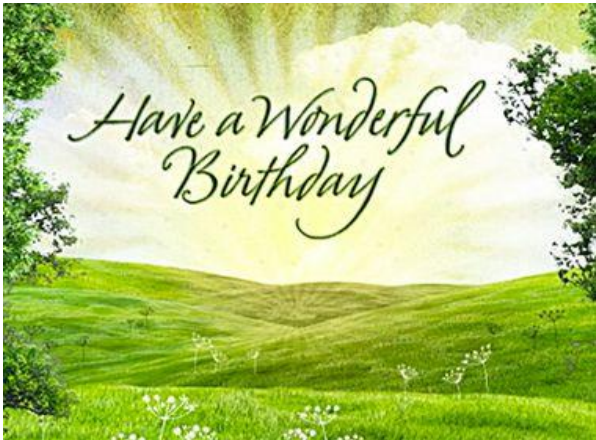
RESPONSIBILITIES

Date	March 1st	March 8th	March 15	March 22nd	March 29th
Altar Flowers	Carol & Starlet Barlow	OPEN	Rick & Chrie McCue	Tim & Joann Neuman	OPEN
Sanctuary Lamp	Audrey Moncada	Contreras Family	Contreras Family	David Hershberger	OPEN
Head Ushers	Lynda Halbardier Derlin Hennig	Pam Westbrook Paul Ott	Johnette Dixon Stephanie Laughinghouse	Deb Cleary Marilyn Graff	Wayne Scholtz Jenny Lessing
Lectors	Clay Patterson	Janice Wright	Paulette Pyron	Dianna Smith	Will Winchester
Acolytes	Clayton Nickols Kaylee Torres	Mackenzie & Sandy Collins	Baylee Graff Claire Bowman	Landon Cortez Luke Lamprecht	Kinslee Anderwald Easton Hennessey
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

- 3/01 Adyson Bohmfalk
- 3/02 Arabella Perales
 Jared Sprenger
- 3/05 Reenie Beard
 Valencia Winchester
- 3/07 Anjie Clifton
- 3/08 Jacalyn Erickson
- 3/09 Cash Vouges
- 3/10 Elizabeth Lewis
- 3/12 Ollie Hershberger
- 3/13 Alexander Contreras
- 3/14 Morris Faseler
 Addison Halbardier
 Lynda Halbardier
 Hannah Koch
 Caroline Lee



- 3/16 Steve Carrigan
- 3/17 Britany Kelley
- 3/19 Jason Guenther
- 3/20 George Hagen
 Billie Hustede
- 3/21 Kim Anderwald
- 3/22 Henry Nietenhoefer
- 3/24 David Hershberger
 Kasey Koch
 Shirley Krumrey
 Brooklyn Saathoff
- 3/26 Wyatt Koch
 Glennetta Saathoff
- 3/27 Gail Saathoff
- 3/30 Laurie Lentz

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School	2 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 7:00pm Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Journaling	3 7:00am Prayer Warriors 6:00pm Topical Study (LLB)	4 Women's BSF Tack Quilters Highschool BSF Lunch 4pm-5:15pm 4 th – 6 th Bible Study 6pm CAYA Worship & Lenten Meal Youth following meal 7pm Bible Study	5 6pm Bible Study – Galatians (LLB)	6 Office Closed	7
8 Youth Service 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 am Sunday School 2pm Nursing Home 4:30pm WWJSWTX @ Hondo Methodist	9 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 1:30 Friends In Faith 7:00pm Bible Journaling	10 7:00am Prayer Warriors 6:00pm Topical Study (LLB)	11 Women's BSF Tack Quilters Highschool BSF Lunch NO Fun time/Bible Study 6pm CAYA Worship & Lenten Meal 7pm Bible Study (A/C)	12 6pm Bible Study – Galatians (LLB)	13 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline	14
S P R I N G B R E A K						
15 9:00am Worship Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School Confirmation 1pm-5pm	16 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 7:00pm Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Journaling	17 7:00am Prayer Warriors 6:00pm Topical Study (LLB) 7pm Council Meeting	18 Women's BSF Tack Quilters Highschool BSF Lunch 4pm-5:15pm 4 th – 6 th Bible Study 6pm CAYA Worship & Lenten Meal Youth following meal 7pm Bible Study	19 6pm Bible Study – Galatians (LLB)	20 Office Closed	21
22 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School	23 Cornerstone 10am-2pm 1:30pm Friends In Faith 7:00pm Bible Journaling	24 7:00am Prayer Warriors 6:00pm Topical Study (LLB)	25 Women's BSF Tack Quilters Highschool BSF Lunch NO Fun time/Bible Study 6pm CAYA Worship & Lenten Meal Youth following meal 7pm Bible Study (A/C)	26 6pm Bible Study – Galatians (LLB) 7pm Band of Brothers (A/C)	27 Office Closed	28
29 PALM SUNDAY 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30 Egg Hunt	30	31	1	2 Maundy Thursday 6pm Seder Meal Service	3 Good Friday 6pm Service	4

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

Youth and Children of St. Paul



Thank you very much for all who supported and made our Rummage Sale such a success. We made over \$7,000.00. What a blessing! Many volunteers clocked over 480 hours the week of the sale which is equivalent to about 20 days. Wow!! The campers who volunteered earned about \$14.32 per hour worked.

XL XXVIII XIX



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.

Upcoming Important Dates

Every Wednesday through March 25th – Soup & Sandwiches begin
March 15th —Confirmation
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
Make sure to read the text block that has the Bible Study Opportunities



Palm Sunday is April 13th

8:50 am – Meet in the Annex for Palm Processional
10:30 am – Sunday School
11:45 am – Easter Egg Hunt
Bring your own Easter Basket but no need to bring eggs. There will be crafts and activities on each table for your family to complete together. Each family is asked to bring their own lunch.

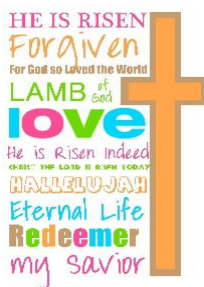
Bible Study Opportunities
Youth Sunday School is in full swing with a Bible Lesson each Sunday morning. Wednesday Night Youth is also in full swing with a Bible Lesson from 7 to 8:15 pm . Bible Study Lunches each Wednesday
After School Bible Studies
4-6th will be 1st & 3rd –
K-3rd will be 2nd & 4th from 4 to 5:15 pm

The Youth did a fantastic job leading the Youth Worship Service - as always. It is such a blessing to see the Youth growing in their faith and their willingness to share their faith with our congregation.



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Vacation Bible School
June 15-19, 2026

Please use the QR code to register your children and to register as a volunteer



Extra Extra
We need lots of help to make our VBS a success. Please pray about volunteering to help children learn about Jesus. Always an amazing week. Contact Laurie if you are interested.



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 Hebrews

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 “Romans” (YAK Class Rm, Ed. Bldg.)

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 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

“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:

Lynda Hook, John Massengale, Larry Stewart, Bobby Klein, Cassidy Reus, Bill Reus, Margaret Reus, Buffie Rogge, Howard Saathoff,
Henry Nietenhoefer, Helen Ann Jones, Sharon Becksted, Mike Thompson, 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, Andy Lynch, 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.

Robyn Lison Chapman



HERE AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reminder this month we observe the season of Lent.

We will have a worship service at 6pm followed by a meal with soups, sandwiches and desserts in the Activity Center. This is a fun time of fellowship and an opportunity to get acquainted with other members and families. Join Us!!!

Looking Ahead

March 4th – 25th Wed. 6pm Worship with Soup & Sandwiches to follow

March 29th - Palm Sunday (Easter Egg Hunt following Sunday School)

April 2nd – Maundy Thursday - Seder Meal @6pm in the Activity Center

April 3rd – Good Friday 6pm Worship Service

April 5th – Resurrection Sunday - 7am & 9am Services

April 19th – Confirmation Sunday

May 7th – National Day of Prayer

May 17th – Senior Sunday

May 24th – Pentecost Sunday

June 2nd – 6th - Camp Eagle

June 15th – 19th - VBS

“COME AS YOU ARE”

6pm Lenten Worship Services

March 4th – “Obstacles to Living the Crucified Life” – Don Krumrey

March 11th – “Veils that Obscure God’s Face” – Roberta Hennig

March 18th – “The Beauty of Contradictions” - David Hook

March 25th – “The Purpose of the Refiner’s Fire” – Laurie Lentz

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 Nietenhofer

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#307

Kerrville, TX 78028

Honduras Mission Trip 2026

How can you help?

- 1) Pray for the mission team and the Hondurans we serve.
- 2) Provide financial sponsorship in any amount for the project. Donate online, Venmo or checks payable to:
St. Lukes Episcopal Church (memo - Honduras Mission 2026)

There is an interest in other churches to bring back the “Big Event” if you are interested in participating on behalf of St. Paul call the office and let Joann know.

Congratulations to
AJ & Holly Meyer on the birth
of their son
McCrae Andrew Meyer
born February 18th .
Proud sister Charli and
grandparents
Chuck & Lynda Halbardier.



Congratulations to
Collins & Catherine Thompson
on the birth of their son
Emmet Collins Thompson
born February 12th weighing
in at 6lbs 9oz.
Proud grandparents are
Cornell & Onnie Saathoff.

MEDINA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

People often ask what items to donate to the food pantry. Please note these changes along with the usual basics. The biggest change is No More Canned Beans! 1 lb. bags of dry pinto beans are the favored bean request. Dish soap and toilet paper are new requests. Here is the list of the usual basic items: Mac/Cheese, Ramen, Spaghetti/ Spaghetti sauce, 1 lb. bag rice, any dry pasta, peanut butter, jelly, cereal/oatmeal, canned tuna, chicken, spam, the smaller sizes of vegetable oil, sugar and flour (2 lb.), the 4 lb. flour tortilla mix, and canned vegetables (corn, green beans, potatoes, etc.). All items must be in original packaging.


Check out Facebook for daily updates, as we often have pop-ups on Mondays and Fridays to give out fresh produce and items with short expiration dates. The pantry is growing! helping many Medina County families and individuals in need every month.

Thank you for supporting the pantry for so many years. God has been so good to this pantry, It is amazing how we have seen

God's work, His hand in all the actions that have taken place, His guidance with decisions in 2025. Volunteers have really worked, everyone pitched in, freely offering their skills and talents, and the rewards have been amazing.

If you have any questions, please ask Betty Ann Prewitt or Penney Soliz.

Sincerely,
Betty Ann Prewitt



March Special Offering ~ One for Israel

Established in 1990, ONE FOR ISRAEL began as a Bible college and has since expanded to a multi-faceted ministry with the express goal of reaching Israelis with the Good News of Yeshua, training and equipping the Body of Messiah in Israel, and blessing our community with Yeshua's love.

The story and ministry of ONE FOR ISRAEL is part of something much larger – the miraculous restoration of the Jewish people and the miraculous unity between Jewish and Arab believers in Jesus.

We are seeing not only the physical restoration of Israel after a 2000-year exile, but a spiritual revolution is taking place right in front of our eyes. Jewish people are returning to their God and accepting the Messiah in numbers not seen since the early church! Not only that, but many Arab people are coming to the Lord and many Arab believers are finding a deep unity with their Jewish brothers and sisters.

ONE FOR ISRAEL exists to do ministry within this miracle.

We are Jews and Arabs, together serving Messiah Jesus, sharing the Gospel with Israel and the world, making disciples, training leaders, and blessing our communities in the name of Yeshua.



"Your Refuge from the Storm"

January 27, 2026

Dear Members and Friends of St Paul,

We are humbled by your financial and service contributions to St. Paul during this past year. Our mission continues to be "Share the everlasting love of Jesus Christ with others!" As we fulfill this mission, God is leading us by having an impact in Kodiak, in Alaska, in our nation, and internationally. This work would not be possible without every single member of our congregation. THANK YOU so very much! Because of your faith, compassion, and understanding, we've been able to accomplish some vital work:

- Through tithing and the special offerings you have given St Paul in 2025, we have in turn given over \$26,500 to organizations that support the work of Christ.
- Through your support and the support of LCMC congregations in our great nation, we have continued to work with one of our local contractors to rebuild of our church sanctuary roof.
- Although our pastor had to resign for health reasons, we have maintained operating expenses for our church so that we are able to gather to worship together and grow in our faith.
- We have provided financial help to feed and provide heat for those less fortunate in our own community.
- And in many other ways, we have been the hands and feet of Jesus.

Enclosed with this letter, you will find donation data for tax purposes. We are very blessed to have had your support this past year. We look forward to worshipping and serving our Lord together this year!

To God be the glory,

Laurie Orvedal

Laurie Orvedal
St Paul Lutheran Church Council President

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV

3077 E Rezanof Drive
Kodiak, AK 99615

Dear Ministry Partner,
Thank you for partnering with Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child in filling Shoeboxes with gifts for needy children around the world.
Having you as our ministry partner is a joy and blessing knowing we are getting the gospel to the ends of the earth.

May God richly bless you and all who filled the Shoeboxes.

Lorraine Zensen

Dear St. Paul Congregation,
A heartfelt thank you for the recent \$4200 offering to the Medina County Food Pantry. With this blessing you help us continue our mission of assisting families in Medina County with food insecurity. Your on-going support and food donations is greatly appreciated as are the volunteers who represent our Church.
On behalf of the Board and Volunteers, thank you for your generosity!
God Bless, and Sincerely,
Dee Ann Brewster
Corresponding Secretary

February 18, 2026

St Paul Lutheran Church
PO Box 58
Hondo, TX 78861

Dear St Paul Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$450.00 (Check#15012) received on February 18, 2026. Words cannot express my gratitude enough.

Your loyal commitment to the growth and development of Medina Senior Center / Meals on Wheels Medina County is essential to our mission, and helps us achieve our vision to promote the dignity, value, health and security of homebound Medina County seniors in need of nutritious meals, friendly companionship and related resources.

Through your support of Medina Senior Center Inc., you ensure the needs of seniors in our community are met. We are forever grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Warm Regards,

Barbara Kosack

Dear faithful friends at St. Paul Lutheran,
We are filled with deep gratitude for your continued dedication to Restore Reproductive Health, as evidenced by your January Sunday School offering donation. You help us to be the hands + feet of Christ to our corner of a hurting world. Please keep our mommas, babies + families in your prayers, some have very heavy loads to bear.
Thankfully,
Diane Cosgrove
Executive Director



Church Families/Adult Groups Lent Soup & Sandwich Schedule



The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, February 18th. The Worship Service will begin at 6:00 pm and our Soup and Sandwich meal will be at approximately 6:45 pm. Each Sunday School Class will be asked to be in charge of one Wednesday with the youth & children helping as well. All are welcome to bring soup and sandwiches to share each Wednesday. We ask for families of St. Paul to help with these meals and to enjoy some fellowship time as well - meaning try to either help set up or clean up. Please have your food items to the Activity Center by 6 pm on your assigned Wednesday. Please text me if you have any questions.- it is suggested 2 dozen sandwiches, crock pot of soup. If the date that you have been assigned does not work for you, please feel free to switch with someone. Thanks in advance for your help and God bless, Laurie 210-213-2088 or Jacob 830-741-1045

March 4th - Anderwald Family - Soup, Reenie Beard Family - Soup, Denman Family - Sandwiches,
Heather Schlidt Family-Sandwiches April Torres Family Dessert,
Marti Graff Family - Dessert
Women of the Church 3 soups/3 sandwiches/3 desserts

March 11th - Tammy Neuman Family-Soup, Veronica Nickols Family-Soup, Erica Halbardier Family -Soup,
Blair Terrill Family-Sandwiches, Katie Hay Family - Sandwiches, April Barr Family-Dessert,
Megan Fernandez Family - Dessert
Rod Prewitt's Class 3 soups/3 sandwiches/3 desserts

March 18th - Jen Wiemers Family-Soup, Brittany Kelley Family - Soup, Raquel Kennedy Soup,
Meredith Saathoff Family - Sandwiches, Gretchen Sittre Family - Sandwiches,
Callis Family Sandwiches, Jenny Bauman Family - Dessert, Rob LaPorte Family - Dessert
YAK Sunday School Class 3 soups/3 sandwiches/3 desserts

March 25th - Becky Scott Family-Soup, Sarah Bailey Family-Soup, Greenwalt Family-Sandwiches,
Clancey Schueling Family-Sandwiches, Sadie Schweers Family-Dessert, Greenwalt Family -Dessert
Band of Brothers 3 soups/3 sandwiches/3 desserts



Texas District

Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



HARVEST
WORKERS

A Lenten Invitation: Set Free to Witness

Each year in the season of Lent, Christians are invited to a familiar rhythm: slow down, reflect, repent, and return to the Lord. For many, Lent can feel like a somber season as it is often marked by fasting, self-examination, and reflection. Lent is all these things. But I also think that Lent can also be a critical season of preparation for our mission in the world.

As Christians begin their Lenten journeys around the world on Ash Wednesday, millions focus their attention on Psalm 51. Here King David pours out his heart before God in one of the most raw and honest prayers recorded in scripture. For context, David's sin with Bathsheba had just been exposed. Confronted with his failure, he does not hide from the truth, minimize what he has done, or make excuses. David simply comes before God broken, exposed, and seeks God's mercy and grace. And he prays, *"God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore the joy of your salvation to me, and sustain me by giving me a willing spirit. Then I will teach the rebellious your ways, and sinners will return to you."*

Notice the pattern: David first begins in honest confession, then pleads for God to cleanse and restore him. But notice where he ends up: *"Then I will teach the rebellious your ways, and sinners will return to you."* The journey from repentance leads David not inward and further into himself, but outward towards others who need God's grace and forgiveness, too. Repentance is not the destination; in it we find freedom to witness to others.

This is something we may understand but don't always do. We know and celebrate that confession and forgiveness are central to our life of faith and cherish the freedom that comes in honestly naming our sin and hearing again the promises of God's forgiveness spoken over us. But do we take the step that David takes and commit to telling others the Good News? When we stop pretending to have it all together and honestly acknowledge our own brokenness and need for grace, we become the kind of authentic and compelling witnesses to the Gospel that the world needs. Those who need Jesus aren't looking for perfect people to show them the way. Instead, the world needs real people who have found real hope in Christ Jesus to share the Good News.

In this Lenten season, embrace the invitation to repent in the spirit of David in Psalm 51. This is not an obligation to check off, but an opportunity to experience again God's mercy. May the Holy Spirit work in you to create a clean heart and may the joy of your salvation be restored not only to you, but also through you. Like David, may the joy of the Lord's salvation overflow out of you with a willing spirit that points others toward the God who forgives, restores, and renews. You are set free to witness.

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.

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