

THE CHURCH ON THE HIGHWAY

Where Life and Jesus Intersect

St. Paul Lutheran Church

July 2021 Edition

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From Our Senior Pastor

Rev. Larry Krueger

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Vice President! What Does This Mean?

As I announced at worship services on Sunday, June 13, at the convention of the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, which was conducted June 10-12, I was elected as a vice president of the district. Specifically, I was elected as Vice President of Area B of the district. Area B basically covers the northeast quadrant of the state. So, what does this mean?

First, it means I will continue serving as pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church. The office of vice president in the district is not a full-time position, rather a position with occasional duties to serve the church-at-large.

Secondly, it means performing the duties of the office. The duties of district vice presidents are outlined in the bylaws of the district, as follows:

- a. perform the usual duties outlined in the district bylaws, receiving their responsibilities from the president and being accountable to him; (*e.g. occasionally conducting installations and interviews of prospective seminary candidates, etc.*)
- b. visit the congregations of the circuit visitors in their administrative area;
- c. advise the president on conditions within their respective areas;
- d. serve as voting ordained minister representatives from their respective areas on the board of directors;
- e. serve as the president's representatives, as assigned by him, in advisory membership on boards and committees; and
- f. attend all district circuit visitor meetings called by the district president.

Some of the occasional duties associated with the above list include conducting installations and performing interviews of prospective seminary candidates, etc. All of these duties are part of the bigger picture of the mission work of the collective congregations of the district. Namely, "The mission of the Texas District is to strengthen congregations to reach the lost, disciple the saved, and care for people – locally and globally." The officers of the district serve on behalf of the congregations of the district to work at fulfilling this mission.

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Sunday Worship
8am & 10:30am
Bible Class/Sunday School
9:15am

UPDATE FOR ON-SITE WORSHIP, EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, JULY 4: We continue to hold on-site worship at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Recognizing the local decline of COVID-19 cases in this area, the Board of Elders at their meeting on Monday, June 21, has established the following Sunday morning worship protocols as we continue to move forward out of this pandemic.

- † **The wearing of masks at worship will remain optional.** The use of hand sanitizer is still encouraged.
- † **In the sanctuary** seating will be fully opened. This means every row of pews will be available for seating throughout the sanctuary. *NOTE: The pews will not be sanitized between services.*
- † **Registration at worship:** Registration cards will be placed in the pew racks with the request that every attendee please register. *Registration will be of utmost importance for purposes of tracking, just in case notice of a COVID case needs to be sent to those in attendance.*
- † **Communion distribution** will basically return to pre-COVID practices, with the exception that the common cup will not yet be resumed. Drive-thru communion will be discontinued. Those who have been participating in drive-thru communion may resume Sunday morning attendance, attend the monthly Seniors service, or make special arrangements with Pastor Krueger. The pastor and the distribution elders will continue to wear gloves, however their wearing of masks will be optional, based on individual preference. Kneeling or standing at the communion rail will be optional, based on individual preference. The communion rail will not be sanitized between tables, but will be sanitized between worship services.

Pastor Krueger continued:

In the larger scope, the district is the Synod in this place. Just like the congregations of the district work collectively in mission, so also the congregations of the Synod walk together to identify positions on theological matters (ref. Acts 15:1-31) and to accomplish mission work that individual congregations would not be able to accomplish on national and international mission efforts (ref. 1 Cor. 12:4-31). Thus, the officers of the district also serve to advance the objectives of the Synod.

So, what does all of this mean regarding the role of vice president? I will have the privilege of serving congregations, beginning as pastor at St. Paul, serving other congregations in Area B in special roles from time to time, and continuing service on the district Board of Directors, this time as a vice president, not secretary. This is another new adventure in my service to the Lord in His Church. I am not sure what all lies ahead in this role, but I trust the Lord to lead and guide me. I am also privileged to have the family of St. Paul to share in the adventure. Thank you for walking with me on this journey!

“Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” (Colossians 3:17, ESV).

Love God and love your neighbor,
Pastor Krueger

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

- † We pray for continued healing for all those who have suffered physical problems in the last month (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord lay His healing hand upon them.
- † We pray for those on hospice care (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray Lord provide them comfort and peace.
- † We pray for all who are undergoing cancer diagnosis/treatment (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord keep His healing hand upon them.
- † We pray for all who struggle with ongoing health concerns (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord keep His healing hand upon them.
- † We pray for all who are home-bound (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord give them comfort and peace with their living situation.
- † We for all those in nursing care or assisted living facilities (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord give them comfort and peace with their living situation.
- † We pray for those who have lost loved ones in the last month (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord give them comfort in their time of sorrow.
- † We pray for those serving in our Armed Forces (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord keep them safe in their stead as they defend our freedom and safety.

Please contact the church office if you, someone in your family, or a family friend is in need of prayer. Please keep the church office advised of the status of those you add to the prayer list, so that our list remains up-to-date. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 254.799.3211 or by email to: wecare@splcwaco.com.

SERVANTS FOR JULY

Those serving are listed by first & last initial only to protect their identity.

ACOLYTES:

7/4 HG (8:00am)
CW (10:30am)
7/11 EM (8:00am)
BH (10:30am)
7/18 HS (8:00am)
ZF (10:30am)
7/25 EA (8:00am)
WW (10:30am)

ELDER OF THE MONTH:

DM

USHERS

8am Worship: Group 9
10:30am Worship: Group 10

ALTAR FLOWERS:

7/4 R & LT
7/11 KS
7/18 **OPEN**
7/25 H & AB

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

7/4 JH (8:00am)
P & DE (10:30am)
7/11 TA (8:00am)
PP (10:30am)
7/18 M & BG (8:00am)
J & RR (10:30am)
7/25 KS (8:00am)
K & MS (10:30am)

ST. PAUL SENIOR ADULTS will come together for a worship service with Holy Communion at **11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2021**, with a fellowship luncheon following. All are invited to join us for this time of fellowship! *We have returned to members providing homemade or store-bought desserts for the luncheon.* If you have any questions, please call the church office (254.799.3211).

Classes for All Ages

**Join us for Sunday School and Bible Class at 9:15 a.m. Sunday mornings
(Masks are optional for all classes/events).**

Adult Bible Class, in the Family Center

This group is studying the book of Genesis.

Men's Bible Class, in the Conference Room

This group is studying various topics, applicable to everyday life; utilizing archived sermons by Rev. Walter Albers. *This class will move into the Parish Hall on Sunday, July 11th.*

Ladies Bible Class, in the Parish Hall

This group is finishing up their study examining the things we say that get in the way of our relationships with God and with others. They will begin a new study on Sunday, July 11, "God's Relentless Love." Discover God's real, unconditional love in this relatable, approachable Bible study. *This class will move back into the Conference Room on Sunday, July 11th*, as this study includes video study material.

Nursery - Grades 6 in classrooms

Due to the sizes of our Sunday School classrooms, we ask that both teachers and children, nursery age thru 6th grade, remain masked the entire class time. We are so very grateful for our teachers!

Nursery - Kindergarten: Willie Vandolah

Grades 1-2: Linda Mitchell

Grades 3-5: *Teacher Needed*

Grade 6: Angel Breton

If you have any questions, please contact the Board of Children's Ministry Chair, Ashlee Peacock, or DCE Intern, Megan Harcrow.

Grades 7-12, in the Youth Room

This age group is using a blend of regular Bible studies including music and videos.

Other Bible Study Opportunities:

College Student Evening Bible Study/Fellowship

This group will resume meeting in the Fall semester.

Sunday Evening Bible Study, in the Family Center

This group is planning to resume in September.

Youth Confirmation/Catechesis Training

Wednesday evening Confirmation/Catechesis classes will resume in the Fall.

***There's a place for EVERYONE to be immersed in
God's Word and fellowship with other Christians!***

CAMP LONE STAR

LUTHERAN OUTDOORS MINISTRY OF TEXAS

Summer is upon us and our thoughts are turning again to enjoying the outdoors and especially the opportunities given us as Lutherans at Camp Lone Star at La Grange. There have been many good memories made at camp! We have installed three bulletin boards at St. Paul that has the schedules for the upcoming events at Camp Lone Star and provides information as to its ministry and outdoor offerings. We thought it would be a great idea to use these bulletin boards to also display recent photos that our members have taken there, especially of our children, to get across the essence of why we have outdoor ministry - Its fun, and brings us into close contact together in God's natural world.

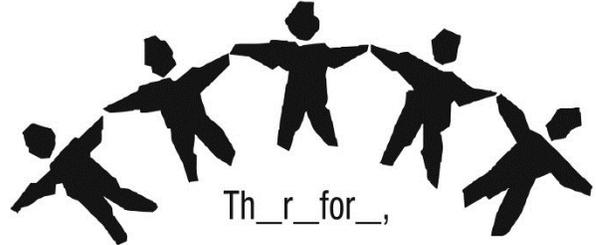
If you have some photos you would like to submit for posting, please drop them off in the church office mailbox or email them to: wecare@splcwaco.com.



"Blessed are the givers...and grateful are the receivers." On behalf of the Central Texas Mission Task Force (Waco Church Plant), thank you for your generous contribution to this mission. Please continue to keep this mission in your thoughts and prayers.

Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



Th_r_for_,
 _s G_d's ch_s_n p__pl_,
 h_ly _nd d__rly l_v_d, cl_th_
 y__rs_lv_s w_th c_mp_ss__n,
 k_ndn_ss, h_m_l_ty, g_ntl_n_ss
 _nd p_t__nc_. B__r w_th
 __ch __th_r __nd f_rg_v__n_
 _n_th_r _f _ny _f y__ h_s _
 gr__v_nc__ g__nst s_m__n_.
 F_rg_v__s th__L_rd f_rg_v__y__.

C_l_ss__ns 3:12-13, N_V

Answer: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:12-13, NIV



LWML Mite Box Sunday July 4, 2021

LWML continues having regular Mite Box Sundays each quarter (January, April, July, and October). Please place your donation in the display located in Mission Central in the church foyer. We suggest that you place your donations in a Ziploc bag. This way you can keep your mite box. Don't have a mite box? You can pick up one at our display in the church foyer!

Your mite box funds mission grants in Texas, the US and globally. As always, all monies collected will be sent to LWML Texas District for Mission Grants.

NEW MISSION GOAL FOR THE 2021–2023 BIENNIUM! Delegates approved a mission goal of \$2,150,000! Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

If you would like to view the 2021-2023 Mission Grant recipients, please visit the LWML Web page at LWMLTXDist.org or stop by the LWML display in the church foyer. Thank you for your participation! If you have any questions, please contact an LWML member.

Ol Sew 'n' Sow Quilters will be featured on KWTX Television Brady Taylor's Backyard BBQ on Thursday, July 1. They were selected for this special honor as a valued non-profit organization in Central Texas. There will be interviews televised on KWTX news that evening at 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. where they will share the many projects they create and donate to hospice, the Waco VA, Bellmead Police Department and others in need in our area. Please take a moment to tune in to KWTX on Thursday, July 1, to share in the quilters excitement to spread the love and care of Jesus to those in our community!



The Texas Ramp Project

Building Freedom for the Homebound in Communities Throughout Texas



St. Paul Lutheran Church has partnered with The Texas Ramp Project to help community members by building ramps for those in need. These ramps allow easier access to and from their homes for more independence and freedom! Recently this mission was featured on KXXV Channel 25. If you are interested in assisting the Texas Ramp Project, please contact John Banta or the church office. They have been building as many as 3 ramps per week recently, and would welcome additional volunteers!

If you would like to learn more about The Texas Ramp Project, or how to have a ramp built for someone, please visit their web site: <https://www.texasramps.org/>



Children ages Nursery - 6th Grade are invited to join us!
A science lab conducts experiments that explain how things are possible. In Jesus' ministry, He did things that are impossible. His greatest miracle of all was dying on the cross and rising from the dead for our salvation. At God's Wonder Lab, discover that Jesus does the impossible for us.

**Dinner will be served nightly, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Activities will begin at 6:00 p.m.**

**Please visit the church Web site (www.splcwaco.com)
to register your children or to volunteer to serve!**

- ◇ **WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO SET-UP ACTION TEAMS THROUGH THRIVENT FINANCIAL.** You can visit the Thrivent Web site (<https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-action-teams.html>) and follow the steps to start an action team. If you have questions or need assistance with setting up your Thrivent Action Team, please contact DCE Intern, Megan Harcrow at DCEMegan@gmail.com or you may contact Brandon Kubitza by email (Brandon.Kubitza@thrivent.com) or by phone (254.772.8957).
- ◇ **VBS VOLUNTEER TRAINING** will be held on Sunday, July 11, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. (lunch will be provided). All volunteers are asked to attend to ensure that VBS runs easily & smoothly. If you have any questions, please contact DCE Intern Megan at 254.799.3211.

Children & Youth Activities

Youth SUMMER (Re)Boot Camp

Students in grades 7-12 are invited to join us as we finish off our special six-week youth ministry experience "Summer (Re)Boot Camp" on Wednesday, July 7, at 6:30 p.m. We will enjoy games, snacks, and Bible study together. *(The Bible study is based on the new drama series The Chosen).*

Please contact Jerry Tucker with any questions.



Youth Beach Trip

**Beach Trip to Surfside Beach
July 23-25, 2021**

Youth are invited to go on a trip to Surfside Beach. There will be activities, Bible study, games and plenty of food and snacks!

To register for the trip or if you have any questions please contact Jerry Tucker.

**DEADLINE to RESERVE YOUR
SPOT is Sunday, July 11.
Don't miss this opportunity...
space is limited!**

SAVE THE DATE

- 🔊 July 11, 2021, VBS TRAINING, 12-2 p.m. All VBS volunteers are asked to attend. We will gather in the Family Center, lunch will be provided.
- 🔊 July 18-21, 2021, VBS: Dinner will be served from 5-6 p.m. each night, with activities beginning at 6 p.m. Registration is available on the church Web site (www.splcwaco.com) for children and volunteers.
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED IN ALL AREAS!
- 🔊 July 23-25, 2021: High School Youth Beach Trip

If you have questions, would like to volunteer to help with events, or have ideas to share for possible future events, please contact DCE Intern, Megan Harcrow, Ashlee Peacock, or Jerry Tucker.

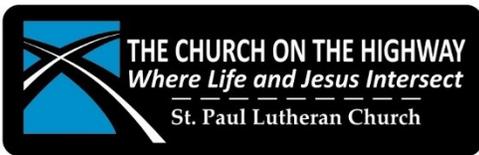


Summer Arts & Crafts Camp

Students in grades 1-4 are invited to join us this summer for a six week arts and crafts camp at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Each child will be given the opportunity to work on short or long term arts and crafts projects and learn new skills! A snack will be provided.

**Dates of Camp: July 8, 15
2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

For more information or to register, please visit the church Web site (www.splcwaco.com) or contact DCE Intern, Megan Harcrow.



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PLACE POSTAGE
HERE

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



July 2021 Edition




Streamed Live

Live-stream Worship on Sunday mornings at
10:30 a.m. at www.splcwaco.com or on
Facebook ([StPaulWaco](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulWaco)).

(Archived copies of Sunday morning
worship are available on the web site.)



Church Office Closed

July 5, 2021

in Observance of

Independence Day

We will return on Tuesday, July 6 at 8:00am