

April Newsletter 2016

To Know Christ,
To Make Him Known,
To Build His Kingdom.

From The Pastor's Desk:

I hope that all of you enjoyed the Lenten season and Holy week as much as I did! It was a pleasure and a joy to walk that journey with you. We had a total attendance from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday of 429 worshippers. And we welcomed in to the fellowship of the church 11 new communing members. Of course we don't measure our success as a church on numbers, we measure our successes on lives changed and people who are coming to terms with and applying the Gospel of grace to their hearts. For the next couple of months, we are going to have a series of sermons that outline who we are as a church by explaining our purpose statement and core values from the scripture. Having a purpose and values are so helpful because they help focus your ministry efforts as a church. If you haven't read our purpose statement and core values, I have included them below. Join us this Sunday as we begin with our purpose statement and over the subsequent weeks consider our core values.

To Know Christ, To Make Him Known, To Build His Kingdom

St. Paul Evangelical Church is an unworthy, undeserving, and broken people who embody the loving embrace of Christ... so we celebrate! We will relentlessly seek to draw others by serving them and meeting their needs without expectation. When the people of St. Paul look at others we will see Christ.

We will share our resources to serve the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of those in and around our church, in our neighborhoods, in our community and beyond.

We will do this out of the overflowing love of God and His people, so that others can share in the loving embrace of Christ, and community of Cibolo will be forever changed.

Core Values

-The Gospel. This is the message of the Gospel: Christ died for Sinners. Put another way, we are more sinful than we ever imagined, but more loved than we ever dared hope. It is this Good News that changes lives in a way nothing else can. The gospel is the touchstone upon which all our ministry and theology is built.

-The Lordship of Jesus. Jesus is not only the Savior of mankind, but the King of kings and Lord of Lords. His lordship, dominion, and rule extend into every sphere of life, from art to worship to relationships to business. Therefore, we will work to spread the message of the gospel--and the individual and cultural healing that comes with it--into every area of our lives.

-The Scriptures. The entire bible, from Genesis to Revelation, is about God's glorious character, chiefly expressed in his love for sinners. In a word "redemption" sums up the message of scripture. Every commandment, prohibition, encouragement, promise, story, prophecy, and poem ultimately points to the Lord Jesus.

-Worship. When we participate in corporate worship, we come together as a community of broken sinners, praising God for who He is, thanking him for all he has done, and receiving encouragement and nourishment by the power of his Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament.

-Community. Christianity was never meant to be lived in isolation. Practically the entire New Testament addresses groups of Christians, not individual believers. We walk this road together--laughing, crying, praying, working, playing, suffering, and feasting--as God grows his kingdom in our hearts and in the world around us.

-Our Town. The goal of the Gospel is not just great churches, but great cities, towns, and

communities. We want to be the best neighbors we can be to the folks of Cibolo and the surrounding areas, spreading the Gospel of God's grace wherever and whenever we can, both in word and in action. Our desire is to see the Gospel Transform our community in such a way that when we get to heaven, it will not be an altogether unfamiliar place, because we have tasted a bit of it here!

Grace and Peace

Pastor Jason Ford

Sunday Morning Schedule

Bible Studies for All Ages 9:30

"The Gospel Project"

Children's Sunday School ~ Infants - 6th grade
In the Fellowship Hall classrooms

Youth Bible Study 7th – 12th grade
In the Fellowship Hall

Adult Bible Study
In the Youth Room of the Parsonage

Worship Service

10:30 - 11:30

Fellowship following service

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Bible Study does not meet on the first Wednesday of the month.

In the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm we are studying
The Gospel of Mark.

Join us for a time of prayer, singing, and bible study. Pastor Jason is teaching.

Children's Ministry in the fellowship hall classrooms, they are learning from The Jesus Storybook Bible. Youth

SPEC Youth Update

Confirmation Classes: April 17th, May 15th, May 27th & 28th. Confirmation Sunday, June 12th. Summer Junior High Camp, June 6-10th, see the flyer on the bulletin board for more details. Senior High Camp in July, more details to come. Contact the church office at 210-658-5874.

Upcoming Events

SPEC Supper Club

Wednesday, April 6th at 6:00 pm.

Women's Fellowship

Thursday, April 7th at 10:00 am. They are going to Conservation Plaza, 1300 Church Hill Dr., New Braunfels. They will meet at the church at 10 am and car pool. Please let Bonnie know by April 4th if you plan to attend. For more information, please contact the church office at 210-658-5874.

SPEC Fun Day

Saturday, April 9th at 2 pm. Bring your children and let them enjoy an afternoon of fun on the playground. Snacks provided. See the bulletin board for more details.

Board of Christian Education Meeting

Sunday, April 10th after worship.

The Sewing Sisters

April 14th and 28th

They meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month in the parsonage from 9-11 am. All are welcome to come and enjoy good fellowship and ministry. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 210-658-5874.

Council Meeting

Monday, April 18th at 7:00 pm

Community Breakfast & Bingo

Thursday April 21st at 8:30 am.

General Announcements

Welcome New Members

Please welcome new members Jason & Lindsay B, Andrew & April C, their children Helena & Charis, Stephanie Ford, Mark & Mary H, their children Sarah & Thomas, Myrna M, Justin & Christine S, their children Landin & Carlee, and Eltha W.

Inquirers' Class

If you are interested in learning more about this church, or missed the previous class, we will be holding another one soon. Please let Pastor Jason know. You are not obligated to join, but the class is a requirement for membership. Date and time to be determined later.

Thank You

The church would like to thank all who participated in Holy Week. A special thank you to all the volunteers.

Congratulations

The church would like to congratulate Mr. & Mrs. Brian & Joy C on the birth of their son, Lincoln Henry C. Big sisters, Lillian & Haze. Grandparents Ray Joy & Pat P. Great grandmother Gladys P. Stats: Born February 29, 2016, 6# 10 oz., 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ " long.

Congratulations

The church would like to congratulate Mr. & Mrs. Brandon & Kayla B on the birth of their son, Brian Bentley B. Great grandparents Malford & Vivian B. Great great grandmother Lloyd S. Stats: Born February 29, 2016, 8# 5 oz., 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ " long.

Congratulations

The church would like to congratulate Mr. & Mrs. Tyler & Mirah D on the birth of their son, Liam Charles D. Grandparents Kurt & Lisa D. Great grandparents Don & Marion D. Stats: Born March 17, 2016, 6# 8 oz., 21" long.

Liturgy Sign Up

If you would like to contribute to the worship service by reading the liturgy, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the hallway.

Service Opportunity

If you are looking for a way to serve the church and like working with computers, we have the perfect spot for you. The A/V Team runs the computer and sound for the service on Sunday mornings. You would be able to serve the church and not miss worship. The computer part is a simple program to use and the sound board is basic as well. Please consider sitting upstairs for a Sunday or two in order to find out what all is involved. For more information, please contact the church office at 210-658-5874.

SPEC Supper Club ~ Community Outreach

Preparing and serving a meal for the needy of the community once a month on the first Wednesday. Your thoughts and prayers are appreciated as we attempt to help our brothers and sisters that may need a helping hand. Donations as well as volunteers are always welcome. Please see Rich A, Don & Marion D, or Willie & Ann S.

Women's Fellowship

Recycled Card Program

In Support for St. Jude's Children's Homes Used greeting cards, front cover only, can be dropped off in the designated box located in the Fellowship Hall. They will then be sent to St. Jude's Children's Home, for use by Kids' Corp., a program of the children at St. Jude's Ranch to learn entrepreneurship skills. The children participate in making the new cards by attaching a new back and then selling them. For information on purchasing of cards go to http://www.stjudesranch.org/help_card.php. For more information, please contact the church office at 210-658-5874.

Prayer Team

If you are willing to receive e-mails or phone tree messages with prayer requests, please give Willie S your e-mail address or phone number.

Ushers and Greeters

If you can help usher on Sunday mornings, please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall or contact the church office at 210-658-5874.

Women's Fellowship Cookbooks Available

The cookbooks are available in the church office or after church in the Fellowship Hall. They are \$15.00 each and have over 800 recipes. They would make a wonderful gift for family and friends.

R.A.C.A.P. Pantry Needs:

Macaroni & Cheese / Ramen Noodle Soups / Canned Sweet Peas / Canned Tomato Sauce / Spaghetti Sauce / Spaghetti Noodles and other Dry Pasta / Canned Beans (Ranch, Black, Refried, etc.) 2# bags of Rice / Toilet Paper / Laundry detergent

Reminder: Due to health regulations R.A.C.A.P. is not allowed to accept any donations that are not in their original container or have been opened.

Read Through the Bible in a Year program
from Tabletalk daily devotional
(Tabletalk is \$23/year and can be ordered at 1-800-435-4343)

April Readings

Old Testament: Judges 8 – 1 Kings 6
New Testament: Luke 6:27 - 21

May Readings

Old Testament: 1 Kings 7 – 2 Chronicles 3
New Testament: Luke 22 – John 11:27

Notification of Events - If you would like to be notified of St. Paul events, via Google calendar alerts, please send your e-mail to admin@stpaulcibolo.com with a notation for e-mail alerts.

If your church organization needs an announcement put into the Newsletter, the cutoff date is the 23rd of the month and if you need an announcement put into the bulletin, the cutoff date is Tuesday of that week at noon.

Church Office Hours ~ Monday - Friday
8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Heidelberg Catechism

Lord's Day 23

59 Q. What good does it do you, however, to believe all this?

A. In Christ I am right with God and heir to life everlasting.

60 Q. How are you right with God?

A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is to accept this gift of God with a believing heart.

61 Q. Why do you say that by faith alone you are right with God?

A. It is not because of any value my faith has that God is pleased with me. Only Christ's satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness make me right with God. And I can receive this righteousness and make it mine in no other way than by faith alone.

Lord's Day 24

62 Q. Why can't the good we do make us right with God, or at least help make us right with Him?

A. Because the righteousness which can pass God's scrutiny must be entirely perfect and must in every way measure up to the divine law. Even the very best we do in this life is imperfect and stained with sin.

**Attendance for
February 22 - March 27**

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Exodus 20:8

As His custom was, Jesus worshipped on the Sabbath day. Luke 4:16

Date	Worship	Nursery	Total
February 28	75	3	78
March 6	91	12	103
March 13	84	7	91
March 20	115	8	123
March 24 am Maundy Thur	27		27
March 24 pm Maundy Thur	36		36
March 25 Good Friday	59		59
March 27 Sunrise Svc	76		76
March 27 Easter 10:30	103	5	108

**Giving Report for
February 22 - March 27**

*“Bring the whole tithe into...My house, and test Me in this,” says the Lord Almighty,
“and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of Heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.”
Malachi 3:10*

Undesignated (env/checks/loose plate)	16,704.86
Communion	21.00
New Building Fund	290.00
Prakash India Mission	350.00
R.A.C.A.P.	260.00
Local Mission – SPEC	85.00
Pass Thru	1,332.00
TOTAL	19,042.86

Weekly undesignated giving average for this time period was: \$3,341.

Weekly undesignated giving needed to meet budget is \$3,657.

St. Paul Staff

Jason Ford, Pastor

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Stephanie Ford,

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Serving the Lord since 1876

A mission-focused, kingdom-building family of Christ-followers seeking to be faithful to
Jesus' Great Commission {Go and make disciples ...} Matthew 28:19 and
His Great Commandment {Love the Lord your God ... and your neighbor as yourself.} Luke 10:27