

Faith Messenger

Building OUT by Building UP



We now find ourselves in the midst of a season of RE-BUILDING. Over the past several years we've seen God bring new families into our midst and we've seen Him draw some away from our fellowship for various reasons – all of which we trust are happening perfectly according to His divine plan. As a (relatively) small group of believers it might seem that there's a limited amount that we could possibly do with the resources with which God has entrusted us. But as the people of God, founded upon the ROCK of Jesus Christ, we have been promised that the work we do is one which CANNOT FAIL as even *"the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* (Matt 16:18). This is something that will happen through our BUILDING OUT as we expand God's kingdom into the world around us which, in turn, will come through a BUILDING UP as we grow together as a church and understand the part that each of us will play in that ongoing work.

This BUILDING UP will come through our **ENCOURAGING** each other to recognize and remember 1) WHO we are – as a church with a rich history rooted in the Protestant Reformation and the very pages of Scripture itself; 2) WHOSE we are – a unique people called by God, utterly dependent upon Him for the work we do, and sent to tell the WHOLE STORY of what HE has done Christ that is written on EVERY PAGE of the Holy Scriptures – a story that VERY few people are telling these days; and 3) WHERE we're going – keeping our eyes set on the certainty of the success of the work we do here and now as well as on the bigger picture of that promise we have of an ETERNALLY BLESSED future in Christ. It will also come through a Holy Spirit led **EXPANSION**: 1) of each of our ROLES – as we explore and better understand what our part AS INDIVIDUALS looks like in the mission of this church (COMMITTEES for example!); 2) of our VISION – as we clarify what our purpose and aim AS A CHURCH is in the setting of Paris, Texas, into which God has placed us; and 3) of our OPPORTUNITIES – as we find new ways that the Lord may use to might make that vision happen.

All of this BUILDING UP is the framework upon which we will go about the work of BUILDING OUT. It is a work done through **EXCITEMENT** – as we work through GOOD WORKS that God would have us do in our town to energize people with the living example of the GOOD NEWS that God would have us share with every person with whom we come in contact. This is the basis of what we often think of as **EVANGELISM** – that building out in which God assures us that HE WILL BE IN OUR MIDST as we work through NEW RESOURCES and NEW CONNECTIONS to forge NEW FOREVER RELATIONSHIPS with those to whom God sends us with the GOOD NEWS of what He has done for them as well! This is an exciting time for our church family and I look forward to all that God has in store for Faith PCA!

By His Grace,
Pastor Justin

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, August 19

6:30pm – Faith Ladies’ devotional/fellowship time at the home of Dirk & Lynn VanderMeulen –
1075 CR32240, Sumner, TX 75486

Directions from Lynn: “NOT 32250 as Google suggests – We have a long driveway off of 32240. An ugly mailbox in a row of 3 marks our drive.”

If you have questions, you may contact Lynn at (360) 815-5284

Saturday, August 22

7:30am – Men’s Book Discussion Group – Planning meeting for a new men’s discussion group to be held at Denny’s on the loop

Sunday, August 23

9:45am - Sunday school - Adults and children will meet together in the sanctuary and continue our study of the Westminster Larger Catechism

10:45am – Worship - We will continue our study of Paul’s letter to the Ephesians
- Picnic style “bring you own lunch” to follow worship

Praise and Prayer Requests for Week of August 16, 2020

1. Prayer for **Vicky DeKnight** as she undergoes surgery for ongoing problems with her knee.
2. Praise and prayer for the young twins **Archie and William** as Archie recovers from recent surgery and as William has recently been allowed to come home from the hospital.
3. Praise for good reports from young **Ethan** who is recovering after he recently had to be resuscitated during a basketball practice in Roxton.
4. Prayer for **Mike Leddy** as he continues to battle a number of health issues and for strength for **Georgia** as she continues to minister to him during this time.
5. Prayer for our **nation** and our **leaders** during this time of unrest and difficulty.
6. Prayer for **all of those who have lost jobs** and are struggling through economic pressures during this uncertain time in our country.
7. Prayer for **a number of new opportunities for ministry** starting up within our church.

If you have prayer requests, praise reports, or any items that you would like included in our newsletter - or if you have any other questions, concerns, or needs –

please feel free to email Pastor Justin at faithparispca@gmail.com or CALL/TEXT him at (903) 517-6315.

*Sunday’s sermon and many others can be heard online on our church website at
www.faithparispca.org*