

Ninth Annual

State of the Congregation Address

Rev. 2:1 “To the angel of the church in Ephesus..”(“I know... But...”)

Rev. 2:8 “to the angel of the church in Smyrna write...”

Rev. 2:12 “to the angel of the church in Pergamum write...”

Rev. 2:18 “to the angel of the church in Thyatira write...”

Rev. 3:1 “to the angel of the church in Sardis write...”

Rev. 3:7 “to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write...”

Rev. 3:14 “to the angel of the church in Laodicea write...”

Rev. 2:23 “I (Jesus) am the one who searches minds and hearts, and I will give to each of you (plural/ corporate bodies) as your works deserve.”

Our Vision

“To be a community of spiritual empowered people who reflect God’s love and advance God’s kingdom in St. Paul and the surrounding area, and to the world as the Lord leads, working hand-in-hand with other expressions of the body of Christ, until all have reached fullness in Christ.”

Our Structure

Reaching up (corporate celebration)

Reaching in (body life)

Reaching out (evangelism, networking)

“**Tearing Down Walls**” between

* People and ***God***

* People and their ***identity in Christ***

* People and ***other people***

I. Preaching: “To be used by God to impact, transform and motivate God’s army in accordance with the vision he has given us.

II. Worship: “To engage in passionate, singularly focused, uninhibited, abandoned, worship of God, and to thereby experience his powerful presence.

III. Greeters: “To make all who attend the corporate gathering feel like they belong there.”

Rom. 16:16: “Greet one another with a holy kiss.”

I Cor. 16:20; 2 Cor 13:12; I Thess 5:26; I Pet 5:14

Rom. 15:7 “Welcome one another, therefore, *just as Christ has welcomed you*, for the glory of God.”

Heb. 2:14 –15. Since...the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might *destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil*, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death.

I Cor. 2:8. If the princes of this world had understood [the wisdom of God,] they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Heb. 2:8-9. [IN Christ God is] “subjecting all things under their feet. Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, *we do not yet see everything in subjection to them*, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

1John 3:2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

- 1. Be Reconciled to God by placing total trust in Jesus Christ**
- 2. Become a devoted disciple of Jesus Christ** (see *Steve Underline*)
- 3. Seek the Lord's Will on your Role in the Kingdom** (see *Jodie Frick-Formiller*)