

September 2008

Grace and Peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is hard to believe that summer will come to an end this month, and fall will begin. Even though we had a very busy and active summer, both in the church and personally, it does not seem possible that we are heading back into the colder time of year.

This past month, I reconnected with my closest friend from college. We had been in touch over the last few years, but he and his family spent much of that time in Hong Kong, China, Russia, and Germany. While teaching English in various schools, they also dedicated their lives to church, Bible Study, and the spreading of the Gospel to people who had never heard the good news of Jesus Christ.

I must admit that I am slightly embarrassed when I see where he has gone and the things that he has done in the name of Jesus Christ. On the other side, when I imagine him as a pastor in a church, I envision chaos. I must remind myself of the different ways in which God has gifted us all for ministry, and that in each of us here at St. Paul's, we have been designed in a way that we can serve God through this church.

Not all of us were meant to be missionaries, and neither are all of us designed to be able to do all the things that we may like to do. Very often the gift that we have been given leads us down a path that we may not feel comfortable going. We must dig down deep at times, take a deep breath and follow. I encourage you to be in prayerful conversation with our Almighty Father about the gifts that he has given you and the opportunities that you need to use those gifts properly. Together we can find ways to faithfully serve God through this place. For each of us is a member of the body of Christ, and each has their function to serve the glory of God. Remember, Pray by looking up, Act by looking around.

Peace and Blessings

Pastor Brian Eiss