



Those golden bells rang for the first time in 2017 at the dedication of the Levi and Lu Price Centennial Bell Tower. The Price clan, including children and grandchildren, tolled those bells after which the Paisano family took turns. In future years, the bells will ring at the week's first and final services.

President Bill Collins, who designed the tower, explains "the cross representing Christ's life and mission on this earth is the focal point and reminds us to take this cross and lift Him up daily. Each of us is represented by one of the interlocking crosses symbolizing the fellowship we have when 'two are more are gathered in His name.' The crosses' differing sizes embody our uniqueness in being 'fearfully and wonderfully made' by God. Their rusting reminds us of the 'weathering of life' and that none is without blemish."

"The bells, one for each cross, symbolize our voices –we are not to be silent –'Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!' While their tones differ, they are designed to be rung together, signifying both our individual and corporate worship."

Wade Cline shares how Paisano obtained the bells. "I realized the Paisano bell was held together more by coats of paint than iron. Knowing the Smith family at our church (South Main Baptist, Houston) owned a bell manufacturing company, I asked Doug Smith if they had a large bell Lainie and I could give to Paisano."

However, Doug responded with an extraordinary proposition. His father David owned a large collection of original

Golden Bells

bells from steam locomotives used from the mid-1800s until the mid-1900s. Doug showed Wade and Paisano faithful Bill Brown "four bells mounted on beautiful wooden timbers. After retiring from their trains, these bells had most-recently been displayed outside the family's Houston restaurant across the street from Minute Maid Park, home of the World Champion Houston Astros. David grew up in El Paso, hunted around Fort Davis, and passionately supported Baptist causes. If the bells would meet Paisano's needs and we could get them there, the family would be honored to donate them."

While Wade and Bill knew these could not replace the old Paisano bell, they also realized the unique gift's value." With the blessing of Bill Collins, they loaded the bells on his flatbed trailer. Wade headed out to Paisano and explains, "we had intentionally not secured the bells from swiveling, so they rang often during the 9-hour trip, especially in San Antonio while navigating I-10."

The bells had not lost their shiny bronze luster and looked even more beautiful under a blue Paisano sky. David Smith passed away in late 2017, but prior to his passing was able to enjoy photos of his beloved steam locomotive bells mounted on the Paisano crosses. And we, too, shall enjoy them for many years to come.



President's Passage

Then the Lord said to him, "Go back to the land of your fathers and to your family, and I will be with you." Genesis 31:3

This May marks the 20th year that Phyllis and I have brought our university students to Paisano. Each time we have performed various types of maintenance work on the grounds. Two ice storms and consistent growth of the cat claw have always produced more than enough work to guarantee little idle time. Roofing and painting and pouring concrete sidewalks, as well as live oak leaf removal, are other specific tasks that students perform.

That doesn't sound like much fun, but each year one of the first questions in the fall semester is "Are we going to get to go back to Paisano this year?" That question is usually followed by, "How was the General Camp this summer?" And that question leads to a new student asking, "What's Paisano?" Before Phyllis and I can answer, a veteran will respond, "You just gotta go! It's awesome!"

It is a joy to introduce our students to this incredible place where we all just keep going back. And, it has been a joy to serve beside the likes of Bro. Lloyd, Bro. Dan, and now Bro. John—as they are known to the students—along with all the staff who have come and gone to make this place a place we love.

Some of our students have made significant life decisions during our annual work week, and those always remind me of the life decisions made by so many others over the years. This summer will be no exception.

We look forward to working and sweating this May with students and to worshipping and fellowshiping with all of you in July. See you soon! Bill and Phyllis



Future Encampment Dates

July 22-27, 2018

July 21-26, 2019

July 26-31, 2020

July 25-30, 2021

FROST BYTES

Greetings from Paisano and John Frost,

We are blessed to serve the Lord and you through our work at Paisano. The weather has been mild, dry, and windy. In addition to routine work and repairs, many other items like additional electrical upgrades, potable water storage, and a private cabin owner tool shed are in progress. We expect more things to be completed by the time you arrive for General Encampment. In spite of challenges, the Lord provides everything we need. We eagerly anticipate your July 2018 arrival. Thank you for your prayers.



Foundation Explanation

The sole purpose of the Paisano Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under the IRS Code, is to provide financial support for Paisano Baptist Encampment so the camp can operate until the Savior returns. Contributions are tax deductible. The Foundation has no operational involvement in the Encampment, but Board policy is to donate ½ of annual earnings to the camp while reinvesting the other ½ in endowment. HighGround, formerly the Baptist Foundation, holds the funds.

Consider leaving the Foundation a bequest or making a current gift, but do not contribute to the Foundation what would otherwise be given to Paisano. Donations to the Encampment finance the annual operating budget. The Foundation funds additional resources such as infrastructure improvement, special needs and extraordinary incidents such as ice storm damage.

For further information about the Foundation, contact Rick Gray at (512) 482-0061.

Money Matters

God has again provided for His camp! Contributions and pledges from general encampment last summer were great.

Often people ask, "What does it cost for General Camp?" The first answer is, "A lot!" But let's break that down. The budget for Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2018, calls for \$66,000 for the kitchen, and \$17,100 for program. Add to that \$21,000 for temporary labor to open, have camp, and close down. In fact, almost all the annual expenses are directly or indirectly involved in the cost of general camp. John

Frost and his crew work year around to have the camp in great shape. Paisano is blessed to have John, Bryan, Sandra, David (aka Coach) and all the others who put in many hours each year. Thank you!!!

The budget for Paisano for the current fiscal year totals \$468,025. That includes: Administration (Utilities, Insurance, Telephone & Internet, etc.)-\$43,350, General Camp-\$83,100, Maintenance-\$99,250, and Personnel \$242,325. Thank you for doing your part.

Recreation

Recreational Activities, under the direction of John Elliott, will be from 2:00-6:00p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Volleyball will be on Monday, with sign-ups on Sunday. Basketball and 3K Run (foot or bicycle) on Wednesday and Dodgeball on Thursday. The REC Team will organize outside games for younger children from 3:00-4:30p.m. on Monday and Wednesday.

Day Camp

On Friday at Day Camp, cowboys and cowgirls from the 06 Ranch and other prominent ranching families within the Paisano Family come and demonstrate branding, roping, cracking of whips and other skills used daily on a cattle ranch. Boys and girls get a chance to try these skills themselves and maybe even pet a horse or two! Don't miss the experience!



Children's Church

Children's Church will be held in the Edwards Building Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. Girls and boys should be going into the 1st through 6th grades. Those who attend youth OR preschool activities in the morning are not eligible for children's activities in the evening. Sunday through Tuesday, the boys and girls will rehearse to sing during the family service in the tabernacle on Wednesday evening. Kat Mills will again direct the Children's Choir, and Holly Hillman Smith will be responsible for Children's Church activities. Encampment preachers, the Bible teacher and Paisano president will bring Bible lessons. Individuals or families are needed to assist from 7:30 p.m. until after worship Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. Six persons are needed each evening, and volunteers may serve more than once. A family or several families could take a night. For details or to volunteer, contact Holly Hillman Smith at hillmansmith@gmail.com.



MISSION MOMENTS

Ben Hanna will lead this summer's missions inspiration time. He currently serves as an urban missionary with San Antonio Baptist Association working with the NPL Network. Previously, Ben



and his wife Meredith spent ten years ministering in Eastern Europe with the International Mission Board. Many remember praying as they evacuated from Belgrade in 1999. Others have prayed for Ben's parents as his father Homer worked as an administrator at South Texas Children's Home.

Married 27 years and both Baylor graduates, the couple has four children, two of them at Baylor—MaryKate, a senior early childhood education major, and Jake, a sophomore pre-med biology major in the Army ROTC program. Caleb is likely headed to Baylor in the Fall while Sara is a high school junior.

PAISANO PASTORS



From left to right:
Ben, Steve, Missy, Rachel and Blake Lawrence,
Josh
Dog: Daisy

Steve Wells notes that he celebrated 15 years as pastor of South Main Baptist Church in Houston this spring, and he and Missy have become empty nesters as Josh joined big brother Ben at Baylor.

Steve writes, “I am looking forward to being back in God’s country for a third year. Paisano has become a very special place for me and I hope to have my family with me this summer to share the cool air, fresh fellowship, and chili macho with you all. Add to that, I get to be in the company of two Deans

of Truett, both of whom I count as friends and neither of whom really wants to admit how much I learned from them, is a real joy. I believe this is going to be a very special year at Paisano.”



This summer, the Paisano family welcomes Brad Creed to preach at the encampment for the first time. In 2015, he became the fifth President of Campbell University in Buies Creek, North Carolina. A native of Jacksonville, Texas, Brad earned degrees from Baylor (BA, cum laude) and Southwestern Seminary (M.Div., PhD) with additional study at Harvard and Academia Hispano Americana in Mexico.

Early in his career, Brad was a youth minister and pastored churches in Texas and Louisiana, including First Baptist in Natchitoches, before teaching at Northwestern State and Baylor.

The author of numerous articles, he served as Associate Dean and Dean of Truett Theological Seminary and later as Professor of Religion, Associate Provost, Provost, and Provost and Executive Vice President at Samford University in Birmingham.

Brad’s wife Kathy is an educator and previously taught and worked as an administrator in public schools in Texas and Louisiana. The Creed’s family includes son Charles; daughter Carrie Grace (Samford Class of 2019); and grandson James Noble Creed. Kathy and Brad’s oldest daughter Caitlin passed away in 2007.



FAMILY HOUR

Family hour will focus on understanding and supporting loved ones who struggle with a substance use addiction.

If you have known someone with a substance addiction or are currently trying to cope with such a loved one, you probably wonder if there are things you can do to help get the help he or she needs. Linda R. Millican will offer a practical workshop on the topic at this year’s encampment.

Not only is she a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Associate, a Licensed Chemical Dependence Counselor, and a Licensed Professional Counselor Intern, Linda and her

Army Chaplain husband Maury struggled with their son who was addicted to drugs and alcohol for five years.

Linda will tell their family’s story and how their son overcame his addiction. She will also share about the increasing alcohol and drug crisis in America, including information on current use. She will discuss her journey of self-care, and reliance on family, friends, the church, and community resources. Most importantly, she will talk about the hope in God which kept their family believing for God’s best with their child.

Properties: Pride, Progress and Priorites

John and his staff are working daily to prepare for the Encampment. When you arrive, you will notice that more trees have been trimmed and in some cases dead ones removed as they work to make a safe environment. If you haven’t already acquired insurance on your cabin, you might consider that option. The camp, as well as surrounding ranches, have experienced extreme dryness and high winds. Please, please, please DO NOT use automotive antifreeze in the winterization of your cabin. Paisano’s system is only able to handle RV antifreeze, which is non-toxic. For questions regarding winterizing cabins, pick up an instruction checklist in the Registration Office during the Encampment. We look forward to another fantastic camp meeting.

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| RA Outdoor Retreat* | Paisano Girls Retreat 2018 |
| Boys Completing Grades 1-6, Dads & Leaders | June 12-14, \$85 |
| July 5-7, \$60 | Contact: Karen McGuire |
| Program: Camping, survival skills, and fun | 432-386-3071 |
| Worship: Dale Pond, Green Acres Baptist, Tyler | |
| *Bring your own tent | |
| Contact: John Elliott jelliott@fbc-midland.org | |

MuseumMusings

“We Will Remember”

Memories old and new are special treasures. Visit the museum as we honor Paisano traditions and loved ones who have gone before us. This summer, may we continue to share the Lord's glorious deeds with our children and future generations, and set our hope anew on God. Psalm 78:4-7



Program Highlights

Detailed program available in the camp office

Sunday, July 22

10:30 a.m. Informal Worship Led by Kelly Barnett, Linda and Maury Millican (Tabernacle)

6:00 p.m. First Meal Served

7:00 p.m. Adult/Youth Choir Rehearsal (nightly)

7:45 p.m. Children's Activities (nightly except Wednesday)

8:00 p.m. Evening Worship Service

Tuesday Afternoon, July 24, 2-4 p.m.

All-Camp Day Camp 2-3 p.m.

(Day Camp Area)

Museum Open 3-4 p.m.

Wednesday, July 25

8:00 p.m. All-Paisano Family Worship with Children's Choir (nursery provided)

Friday, July 27

11:00 a.m. Memorial Service and Morning Worship



TEACHING GOD'S WORD

Todd Still is “delighted to be back at Paisano to teach the Bible to some of the most wonderful people on the planet!” This summer's Bible Study will focus on Parables Unique to Luke's Gospel.

The ordained minister, who earned degrees from Baylor, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and University of Glasgow, was inaugurated as the fifth Dean of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary at Baylor in 2015. He has written extensively and served in a variety of ministry capacities, including church custodian, music minister, youth minister, college minister, education minister, and pastor, and most recently as interim pastor of Southland Baptist Church in San Angelo.

The Bible teacher, who was born in Wichita Falls and graduated from high

school in Waco, is married to Carolyn, a founder, administrator and teacher at Live Oak Classical School. Their sons attend Baylor where Samuel is completing his senior year and Andrew is finishing his freshman experience. In his “spare” time, Todd can be found gardening, golfing, watching the Baylor Bears, playing with the family's many pets, and traveling.



Music and Family Worship

“A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing...”--M. Luther

When the architect designed the Paisano Tabernacle way back in 1951, he surmised that the unique Lamella roof would support the wide span of the ceiling and at the same time cause the acoustics to be extremely vibrant. He was right. Music in the Tabernacle is just about the sweetest next to heaven that we will experience in this life.

In just a short time, we'll enjoy the blessings of singing and raising our praises in that wonderful place, and I am excited for that time together with the Paisano family. The music team is planning and dreaming for the week of worship opportunities. Nancy Russell will be back to play the organ.

Again this year, we will include the entire family on Wednesday night as the children's choir sings under the direction of Kat Mills. We'll take Communion on Thursday night, memorialize Paisano loved ones on Friday, and enjoy a special event on Tuesday afternoon.

Consider investing your talents in our camp choir, which meets each day at 7 p.m. before the evening service. If you are interested in singing special music or skillfully playing an instrument, let me know. You can reach me, Jim Cleaveland, at jrcleaveland@yahoo.com or 702-748-1789.

Gifts Galore

As we assemble the gift shop inventory, we have exciting new t-shirt and hat designs and other great additions planned. If you have items to contribute, bring them at the beginning of camp and we will put them in the store. Remember, 100% of all proceeds go back to Paisano. Contact us at Krista and Chris Powell, kpowellfnp@gmail.com to share your questions or ideas. See you soon!

Fuzzy Friends

With the exception of necessary service animals, Paisano discourages individuals from bringing pets to the encampment. Under the Paisano Policies adopted in 2014, pets must be under physical control while on the grounds and should only be in personally owned cabins. They should not be brought into Paisano-owned facilities such as the dining shed, tabernacle, nursery, museum, gymnasium, etc. Thank you for helping us by adhering to our Board-adopted policies.



No cabins are available for General Encampment, but RV sites are \$95 for the week. Oak Grove and Cottonwood have new electrical work and plumbing. For reservations contact Sandra Whiting 214-769-6426 or gdwhiting@bigbend.net