

St Paul's Evangelical Church

The Messenger

Edition 11, Volume 3
November, 2019

From Pastor Steve's Desk

A story of thankfulness and unthankfulness

Two old friends met each other on the street one day. One looked forlorn, almost on the verge of tears. His friend asked, "What has the world done to you, my old friend?"

The sad fellow said, "Let me tell you: three weeks ago, my uncle died and left me forty thousand dollars."

"That's a lot of money."

"But you see, two weeks ago, a cousin I never even knew died, and left me eighty-five thousand dollars, free and clear."

"Sounds to me that you've been very blessed."

"You don't understand!" he interrupted. "Last week my great-aunt passed away. I inherited almost a quarter of a million from her."

Now the man's friend was really confused. "Then, why do you look so glum?"

"This week . . . nothing!"

That's a problem with receiving something on a regular basis. Even if it is a gift, we eventually come to expect it. The natural tendency is that if we receive a gift long enough, we come to view it almost as an entitlement. We feel hurt, even angry, if we don't receive it any longer.

It is the same way with the blessings God gives us every day. I don't deserve my comfortable home that I live in, the beautiful scenery around me, the clean water I drink. But after receiving these gifts (and a multitude of others) for years, I sometimes fail to be grateful. I've come to expect these good things. And when one of them is removed for a short time (like water or electricity or internet going down), I get upset.

Let's make an effort today to recognize the blessings we've come to take for granted. Focus on what we have rather than on what we don't have, and see if it doesn't improve our attitudes.

We are to cultivate a spirit of thankfulness—which means recognizing where things come from and then specifically saying 'Thank You' to the Giver of all good gifts, our heavenly Father (James 1:17). Thankfulness requires us to talk to God about what He has done.

Church Events

Nov. 3 – Evangelical Council Meeting
at 4:00 pm at Moniteau Advent Church

Nov. 10 – Nursing Home visits

Nov. 17 – Family Night @ 6:00 pm

Nov. 18 – Church Board Meeting
at 6:15 pm

Nov. 24 – Congregational Meeting
following church

Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Service
at 7:00 pm

Family Night Hosts:

*Natoma Elliott

Ryan and Chris Rutledge

Mary Kay Watson

Ted and Sara Rohrbach

Denny and Judy Wittenberger

Contact us at:

St Paul's Evangelical Church
149 E. Row St
P.O. Box 195
Jamestown, MO 65046

Phone: for Pastor Steve
319-640-7009

Church: 660-849-2255

E-mail: ecmc.steve@gmail.com

Website:

Stpauljamestown.org

Messenger: Julie King
stpauls.jamestown@outlook.com

Mission focus page

Update on Missions—Mission Fest, 2019

We are thankful to be able to generously support our missionaries. At Mission Fest 2019, we raised \$1471 for the Evangelical Association and \$1721 for the Healing House ministry.

Updates from our missionaries—the Dettman's

DEAR PARTNERS FOR THE GOSPEL, Wow! It's amazing to think back to a year ago and what a different place we were in. We had all just arrived in Southwinds and were just getting to know the city and each other. Each day we had so much to learn about where to find what we needed to live and where to find university students and how they lived. The start of this year has not been without challenges of its own - multiple illnesses, car troubles (which made school drop-offs and pickups challenging), and the loss of our first dog Daisy to name a few. Yet we are so grateful and excited to start this year with a knowledge of the city and where to find students from which to build on, as well as a few disciples! And we are looking forward with anticipation to what the Lord will do in this city this year! As we were praying for the country and the university students this year, I (Nick) was praying through Isaiah 61. It's the passage that Jesus reads aloud in the synagogue in Nazareth, when he proclaims that He is the fulfillment of it (Luke 4:16-21). I've been dwelling on this passage a lot this month thinking about the country, because it focuses on God's promises of prosperity in all areas: spiritually, economically, physically, emotionally, and politically. While this prosperity is promised to be a blessing for the people, the ultimate goal of that blessing is for the glory of God's Name to be magnified among the nations. Back in 2011, as some in this country staged a revolution and overthrew the dictator in favor of a democracy, the rest of the Arab world followed in kind, giving rise to the Arab Spring. How much more do we pray for a spiritual revolution in this country that would sweep across the Arab world as well! Join us in praying for the future of this country, that it would be a place not where people are trying to escape for greener pastures, but that it would be built up and repaired and would bring forth praise (Isaiah 61:4, 11). Pray that the spiritual foundation of Christianity that was so strong in the first few centuries after Jesus would be rebuilt. Pray that people would be turning to the Lord, and that it would be an example to the world of God's fame and glory. Please continue to pray for the election, and for the political and economic stability of the country. Together for His glory, The Dettmans

Healing House/New Beginnings

RESIDENT PROFILE ~ this is a story of how Jesus is changing lives. Pray for those lives around you that this same Jesus will transform them.

Christina's journey before coming to The Healing House in March of this year included living in a youth home, two

prison stays, a mental breakdown, a serious back injury from a terrible vehicle accident and a 5-year separation from her children. As she was completing her prison term late last year, Christina had been seeking the Lord and desired a different way of life. She wanted to try to repair her relationships with her children and to become the mother they need. Settling into the structure of The Healing House and working through life issues through the Word of God, Christina has also been focusing on reaching goals. In addition to developing relationships with her 19-year-old daughter and 15- and 13-year-old sons, Christina is completing her high school equivalency exams. Due to physical limitations, Christina volunteers with the ministry to fulfill her program requirement to work. She is the primary van driver, transporting residents for work, appointments and activities. She cleans the Community Center, organizes the clothing room and performs chore and safety coordinator duties. Christina explains that she would not be able to have relationships with her children without the support she receives from The Healing House. Her children are in 3 different towns and have varying needs that include weekly family counseling sessions and ongoing visits. The structure of the house provides a good environment, especially for her son who has special needs. Other women in the program mentor and provide transportation for Christina to visit her children. Christina is committed to completing the goals required by the State Children's Division for reunification with her sons. She considers successfully living at The Healing House as a proving ground for showing she will follow rules and that she really wants her family. Christina was struck by the stories shared at a conference benefiting HALO, the residential program for young women where her daughter lives. "I heard them describing mothers that were me and that got to me." When asked how she gets through those kinds of feelings of responsibility about the past, Christina responded, "The only thing that will make a difference now is my action moving forward. I believe what we have ahead is greater than the pain of the past. I can't let the past define me and I know self-pity isn't going to help or teach them. I'm just learning how to live, how to be a mom. I have no understanding, but I know it's going to be OK. My children know me as the one who runs – they don't know the me that stays. That will take some time. When I start to get overwhelmed, I remember everything the Lord has done. Both of my sons will soon be in Columbia. I have a great relationship with my son's foster mom and I remind the Lord that I need my will, my mind and body right to do Your will." Christina has it in her heart to be able to help other mothers work through the process of reuniting with their children. With her perseverance, God's help and the ministry's continued support, we pray Christina will reach all her goals.

Pray for Healing House/New Beginnings and check into their website for updates:

www.thehealinghouseandnewbeginnings.org

Heading into Thanksgiving & Christmas

It is a busy time of year—family time, sports, activities in school and at home. In November, we will be focusing on the importance of cultivating a thankful spirit—both in the good times and the hard times. Thanksgiving is one of the purest acts of faith. Thanksgiving is based on a belief that God is in control and that out of love, He has our best interest at heart.

Moving into December, we will focus on the meaning of the Incarnation—what difference does it make that God became man and dwelt among us. We will be needing and recruiting families to help us with Advent readings (which begins Dec. 1). Readers will be given an advent reading and asked to light the Advent Candle for that week. It would be great if you volunteered to help in this way.

Verse for November— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

⁶ Rejoice evermore. ¹⁷ Pray without ceasing. ¹⁸ In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Notes from Mary Kay

In a Sunday School class, a question was asked: "What is the most effective way you know to make sure God's word 'is in your hearts'?" "Memorizing scripture" seemed to be the most obvious answer, but the question has stayed with me, and I've mulled it over. I think both for me personally, and in my experience with my children, the most effective tool for keeping God's word 'in our hearts and minds' is UNDERSTANDING. Memorizing w/o understanding generally has led to quick forgetting. Reading, questioning, discussing until God's point in a passage is understood keeps that passage forever in our hearts and minds. . . .

My older teenagers struggled on and off with regular Bible reading, study and devotions. I noticed that every time I knew one of them was facing a crisis of some kind or another (maybe good, maybe bad), I

would see them carrying their Bible to and from to have it available; I'd see it opened on or beside their bed, and I'd hear them making reference to something they've read in God's word. I believe God has trained them to "run to Him" when they have a question, a need or concern. They know He has something to say to them to counsel, advise, help. Those of you with children or grandchildren under your influence, teach by example. Be quick to "run to Him", searching God's word for counsel for every situation, interact with it until you understand what God is saying to you, then DO IT. Our children will only learn from us if they see us live it...again and again and again.

Becoming—

A Middle School Spiritual Journey

Using the resource "The One Minute Bible for Students" we are developing a habit of daily Bible reading. The weekly devotional studies come from the reading of the week. We have added music to our time together with Greta Leiser helping. We are planning to take the group to SKY Zone in Columbia for a fun night in November. We can always use help—if you would like to be part of the prayer team, food team, activity team or the teaching team, contact Pastor Steve (319-640-7009), or Kathy Reimler (573-424-1086). Going to be a great year.

Senior High Youth Group

We started a new series on Courage by Francis Chan. Simply put, courage is the ability to do something that scares you; however, living it out is a very difficult task. The series revolves around four main points: Standing Alone, Standing Firm, Standing Out, and Standing Tall.

On October 23, we went to Midway Golf and Games for our mid-semester activity. We had a great time with a great group of youth. A special thanks to New Hope Church and Mark Rohrbach for letting us borrow their 15-passenger vans.

Please pray for the youth in our community. Being a teenager in the world today is tough and temptations are looming everywhere. Pray that this series we are studying would give us courage to stand up for the great God we serve!

WWJD

We now have 30 children registered for WWJD with an average attendance of 26 for the month of October. We have added some new faces, both children and adults, for which we are very grateful. The children continue to enjoy the various activities provided upon their arrival at St. Paul's, as well as reviewing Bible verses, the books of the Bible, and songs that were learned last year.

During devotional time on Oct. 2, Pastor Steve Watson led the children with the memory verse to love God with all your heart, with all your mind, and all your strength. He told of the older lady who gave all of her coins to support the church. God wants our whole hearts, not half of our hearts. A new puppet friend, Narfi the giraffe, visited on Oct. 9 and talked to the children about finding joy and happiness in serving God and learning about Him. We can pray to Jesus for His help when times are tough and have Joy because we know that He loves us. On Oct. 16 Pastor Dennis Maxwell of New Hope Baptist Church led the devotional and spoke to the Bible verse from Ephesians 5:19 "address one another

in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart." He accompanied the children on his harmonica as they sang a few familiar songs from a church hymnal and reminded them that, as it says in the Bible verse from Ephesians, when we sing, we give praise and thanks to God. Jamestown elementary teacher Mrs. Katie Smith visited on Oct. 23 and shared her story of God preparing her for the surgery that was needed to heal her heart. She shared Psalms 16:7-8 "I will praise the Lord who has counseled me; Indeed, my mind instructs me in the night. I have set the Lord continually before me; Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken" as the guiding verse in her life. On the last Wednesday of November, Pastor Steve Watson told the story from the book of Daniel of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, and how he demanded that people bow down and worship his statue. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow down and were thrown into the fiery furnace. After they were saved in the furnace, Nebuchadnezzar allowed them to worship their God as he had saved them.

Submitted by Susan Borts

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting October 21, 2019

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board met on Monday, October 21, 2019. Present were Don Gerlach, Ted Rohrbach, Barb Oerly, Lisa Porter, Mark Rohrbach, Debi Baumert and Pastor Steve Watson. President Don Gerlach called the meeting to order and Pastor Steve opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary's report: The secretary's report from the September 16, 2019, meeting was reviewed. Ted made a motion to approve the minutes and Lisa seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report: A copy of the treasurer's report was given to all board members and reviewed. Lisa made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Mark seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- Mission trip update – Seth Rohrbach was at the meeting to give the board an update on the 2020 Mission Trip. Sixteen youth and four adult chaperones have signed up to go on the mission trip. At this point, Seth feels this is a firm number and meets the youth to chaperone ratio needed for the trip. Eight or nine of the youth are members of St. Paul's Evangelical church and the rest are from other churches/community. The cost will be approximately \$500 per person. Most youth attending has paid a \$50 deposit. Seth requested that the church pay for the total cost of the adult chaperones. They will be required to take off work for one week to go on the trip using their own personal time. Seth feels this is a precedence we want to set for future trips. There is currently \$5,247.19 in the budget in a mission trip fund. An additional \$1,000 is in the current budget as well. Kathy Reimler has agreed to head up a mission trip fundraiser that will be scheduled in January. Seth believes that transportation will be taken care of, as it has in the past, but we will address that as the date gets closer. At this time, Debi made a motion to use the \$5,247.19 in the mission trip fund, sponsor the adult chaperones 100% and use the \$1,000.00 in the current budget, if needed, for the mission trip and Lisa seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Church website calendar entries – All dates are included below.
- Church record book – Frank Reimler's death will be recorded.

- Stewardship report – On hold until scope of work needed in the sanctuary is determined.
- Safe deposit box – everything has been taken care of with the safe deposit box.
- Craig flood assistance – Rachel Brickey purchased two \$100 gift certificates for the family. They will be given to the family the week of October 21. The board has asked Rachel to keep us updated if additional assistance is needed.
- Memorial policy – After some discussion the board agreed to table until the next meeting.
- Parking lot recording update – Work is still being done to get the deed for the parking lot, so it can be recorded in the correct name.
- Video update of church – Don is going to get the tape to Pastor Steve to look at it.
- Picnic tables – The board discussed the need for picnic tables. Mark made a motion to spend up to \$500 on material for Dalton Oerly to make two picnic tables in FFA and Ted seconded the motion. Motion passed. Since this is an FFA project there will be no labor charged.
- New board members – Following discussion, a couple candidates were determined and will be approached about serving on the board.

New Business:

- Approval of bills – Barb made a motion to approve payment of the bills and Debi seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Bids for sanctuary – The board discussed the bids received and a timeframe for presenting to the congregation. At this time, all bids have been received except for the bid from Steve Duncan. He was waiting on an answer from the board regarding one item. There is no formal program for November's family night and the board feels it will be a good opportunity to present to the congregation so there is plenty of time for discussion.
 - Carpet – The board will propose the bid from Dutcher's.
 - Sanctuary Altar Renovation – Ted is going to call Steve and let him know our direction on the one remaining item that was outstanding. Also, that we would like to have the bid in time to present at the November family night.
 - Paint – Imhoff Construction will donate the repair and painting of the sanctuary.
 - Lighting – Ted is going to look at lights with Alden Rohrbach to get an idea of what options might be available.
- Pest Control – Don received a bid from Booth Pest Control for \$80 per quarter. After discussion regarding recommended intervals for spraying, Lisa made a motion to have the church treated on a quarterly basis and Debi seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Reimbursement for Camp Aurora – It has been the policy of the board to reimburse families for 50% of the cost of church camp fees. We need to communicate that to the congregation, so we can reimburse families that have not submitted for payment.
- Stage in basement – The board was approached about the stage in the basement and the need for something larger. After discussion, Debi made a motion to ask Don Ernst to build a larger stage for the basement and Lisa seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Discussion items with Pastor Steve:

- Mileage and pastor's report – Pastor Steve gave board members a copy of the report. The report includes an overview of what has been done over the last few weeks, events coming up, local and traveling visits, phone contacts, mileage details, and expenses incurred.
- Vacation request – Pastor Steve requested vacation November 5 – 8 and December 12 – 16.
- Thanksgiving service – Pastor Steve is going to contact the Methodist Pastor about the location of the Thanksgiving service. Details of the service are being worked out by the Ministerial Alliance.
- Cordless headset in basement – Pastor Steve made a request for a cordless headset to have downstairs. It would be beneficial to have for the puppet skits at WWJD and possibly other events. Ted is going to talk to Bryan Schoenthal and Stephen Oerly about a cordless headset for the downstairs.

Next board meeting will be Monday, November 18, at 6:15 pm.

Barb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The Lord's Prayer was recited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Oerly
Secretary

Dates to Remember:

Sunday, November 3 - Evangelical Council Meeting @ 4:00 pm @ Moniteau Advent Church

Sunday, November 10 – Nursing Home visits

Sunday, November 17 – Family night @ 6:00 pm

Monday, November 18 – Church board meeting @ 6:15 pm

Wednesday, November 27 – Thanksgiving service @ 7:00 pm

****Church board minutes update - due to scheduling conflict the bids for the sanctuary will not be presented at November family night. Instead there will be a congregational meeting following the church service on Sunday, November 24.***

