

St Paul's Evangelical Church

The Messenger

Edition 7 Volume 4
July, 2020

From Pastor Steve's Desk

I have heard, "No justice, no peace"—but justice by itself will never bring peace. Justice is about determining right and wrong, assigning blame, pronouncing a penalty. Peace is about a quality of relationship. Many things that have happened to people are unjust, to those created in the image of God who are black, even as it is unjust to assign 'group guilt' or to label a group by the name 'racist.' If justice by itself brought peace (in an absolute way), then the courthouse would be the most peaceful place in the world.

Peace, however, comes through reconciliation, peace is about restoring a relationship or initiating a relationship of mutual respect, grace and love. Reconciliation requires removing the barriers to a relationship. Reconciliation requires something from both sides--for the offender it requires a true and heartfelt sorrow for the pain and injury caused to another individual created in the image of God and, if possible, restitution. For those that are injured it requires truly offering forgiveness without conditions. Bishop Tutu, dealing with a far worse condition of injustice against the black population in South Africa wrote a book, "No Future Without Forgiveness"—that was right then, it is right now.

I am not sure people are truly wanting peace--I fear some want revenge or to inflict punishment. Reconciliation brings peace. This is what we see in the Gospel message. There is a barrier to our relationship with God—our sin and disobedience. Neither God nor we can ignore it or deny it. God knew that we could not remove the barrier—because that would require 'payment' for the offense, for the sin. Only One, who had no sin of His own, could offer to take our place on the cross. Because He is both God and man, His death has infinite value, able to remove the barriers of sin for all who will believe. If we cried for justice—it is unjust that Jesus would die for us. In and through Jesus the Father is just—declaring that our sin is wrong and worthy of death--and He is also gracious in paying that debt through Jesus. Justice alone does not bring peace, but because Jesus died in our place we can experience peace with God (Romans 5:1) and peace with one another, as we believe that Jesus paid for the debt of sin for others and we offer them forgiveness based upon His sacrifice, (Romans 12:18). Don't be seeking justice—be seeking something more—reconciliation, the restoration of broken relationships.

Church Events

July 12 – Communion

July 13-16 – Bible School

July 20 – Church Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

* No Family Night in July

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Notes from Mary Kay—continued from last month

I was looking through the local newspaper of this week which had some pictures taken at Jamestown's 2020 graduation. It featured several pictures one of which was of Sara and youngest son Clark hugging. It brought instant thoughts and memories to my mind of "oohhhh...that's her baby!! I remember those feelings!!" This got me thinking along the line of "raising and launching" our own teens...and since "stories of raising children and teens in the Watson home" has been the theme of my writings this year, I went in search of journals and letters recording some of what God was doing within me, the mother, during these events. What I found was so exciting to me... because we moms (and dads) are never going to get it all RIGHT. But if our kids can see God making a difference in our lives through the stress, the emotional upheaval, just LIFE itself...and they can see and hear us asking God for HELP...He has a way of letting them "catch" the best of a sincere relationship with Him. My plan here is to divide this into two Newsletters with two separate pieces from the very same time in my life. The first I wrote of in July of 2002.

Stephanie returned home Sunday evening from her three-week violin camp in Steamboat Springs (that will explain the t-shirts the family is wearing!) It is wonderful to have her home again and hear the many things she learned and experienced. She is inspired and enthusiastic about the plans God has for her. Marissa began school Monday, and will be on the year-round, quarterly schedule the school system is piloting at Grant Elementary School. Steve flew to a family wedding in Indiana today. I'll be taking a car-load to a reception for a family "elopement" reception in Kansas City Saturday. Seth celebrates his 20th birthday Monday at Maranatha Bible Camp. I imagine, if you stop and think, your family schedule is much the same. People going in and out in various directions for differing lengths of time...yet always gravitating

back to that central hub they call "home"...a stable core that gives a little security and balance.

Hebrews 11:1 says "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." The rest of the chapter goes on to explain specifically how faith was demonstrated by men and women of old. Verse 13 says: "...all these people were still living by faith when they died..."—they never had to see to believe; they lived a lifetime without ever seeing—yet believed God to the end of that life. So, verse 16 says: "...God is not ashamed to be called their God..." Faith, as defined by God in the Bible has an "other-worldly perspective" that transposed what God says about the way life works onto what we see...helping us begin to "see" life the way God sees it. Faith sees beyond what's only visible, sees further than what's happening now, understands with broader insight than the present reality. Believing and trusting a God who always was, always is, never changes, and promises to always be, IS a security base that surpasses even a "home hub." Our homes need to be ordered in a way that gives security and balance in our lives, yet we cannot secure life. The core needs to be something secure. Security must come from an unbreakable tie to something that does not move, does not change, CAN anchor. Colossians 2:6-7 "so then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." I would urge you, as wives, mothers, grandmothers, daughters...nurture what faith God has given you: water it with regular input from God's word, help it grow with use of the gifts He has given you in order to build up and encourage faith in those around you. As you nurture your relationship with God, you build for your family that stability and security that is "other-worldly", that surpasses this life, that they can always come "home" to.

Not Done Yet!

It is good to be back in the sanctuary—but we are not done yet. There is some lighting to be installed and also some decisions about the furniture in the altar area. During the summer, we will be moving things around and taking pictures—at a time later, we will ask the congregation to prayerfully decide what is the best arrangement to facilitate worship. Please take time to thank those that have worked so diligently to get us to this point.

From Healing House

As believers, we are part of Christ's Body—the Church (Eph. 5). We are a part of all that He is doing in and through the church as we pray, give, support. I especially appreciate ministries that have a very clear understanding of the job Jesus has given them to do for the Kingdom. Read through Healing House' core values and then pray that they will be able to live those out day by day.

CORE VALUES

We are a Christian based Ministry.

Prayer is a integral part of who we are.

We value the Living Word, it is the foundation upon which we build our lives.

We value an uncompromising message of recovery leading to salvation.

We follow Christ's example of valuing the poor and needy.

We value unity of the body of Christ.

We value transformation in lives of people and the communities.

We value building Christ-like relationships.

We value continually maturing in our capacity to meet people's needs.

Pray for Heather and the 'nameless' (to us) others that are day in and out making a difference as men and women seek to turn their lives around.

If you would like to give to the Healing House, you can put your offering in the plate and we will be sure it gets to them.

Memory Verses for July

In July we will focus on a key verse from Proverbs, since we are doing a sermon series in Proverbs.

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart
And lean not on your own understanding
In all your ways acknowledge Him*

And He will direct your path,” Prov. 3:5-6

Be working on this verse as a family. Blessings.

From Our Missionaries—Dettmans

Hello family and friends,

We pray you are doing well, and are able to start getting out a little more. Summer is in full-swing here, and we're rejoicing that things are starting to open up here in Southwinds*. Restaurants and coffee shops re-opened for dine in, universities are open this month, and we've been able to meet with fellow believers on Sunday morning for in-person worship! However, this time is bittersweet, as we prepare to say goodbye to the rest of our team, as they will be heading back to the States at the beginning of July.

This week (June 15-June 19) we're having a digital "launch week", where we forego other activities to spend extra time reaching out and meeting students. We're posting lots of ads to different social media platforms in order to engage with as many university students as possible. Please pray along with us for God's Word to move powerfully this week. Our goals are to share the Gospel with 87 students and see 10 students decide to follow Jesus.

We'd love to hear how you're doing and how we can be praying for you as well!

together for His glory,
the Dettmans

*Nick uses the designation 'Southwinds' for the country he is ministering in because it is Moslem.

2020 Vacation Bible School



“Knights of North Castle” is scheduled to be held at St. Paul’s/Grace UMC, Monday-Thursday, July 13-16 from 6:30-8:55 each evening for ages 4 through completed 6th grade. Gathering and pick-up will be at St. Paul’s Evangelical Church. Children can grow strong in the Lord and in the strength of God’s power by exploring how we put on the Armor of God.

Volunteers from the host churches; Pastor Steve; and co-directors Susan Borts (St. Paul’s), Beth Fennewald (Moniteau), and Mary Jane Snyder (Grace UMC) met at St. Paul’s on June 17 to finalize plans. Discussion on the safety of our children and volunteers and efforts to adhere to COVID guidelines led to a few changes for this year. The biggest change is that there will be NO assembly program for parents/guests on Thursday night. The size of our sanctuary simply would not allow us to follow COVID guidelines. We are limiting attendance during the week to registered children and volunteers from the host churches. Plans were made to provide hand sanitizer at all station areas and provide bottled water in lieu of using the water fountains. Individual packaging will be used at the craft and recreation areas. The link for online registration will be sent by email/text to those families that have already sent an RSVP indicating that their child(ren) will be attending VBS 2020.

--Submitted by Susan Borts (573-338-1747 or sborts@hotmail.com)

St. Paul’s Evangelical Church Board Meeting

June 15, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Don Gerlach and opened with prayer led by Pastor Steve. Those in attendance were Don Gerlach, Debi Baumert, Pastor Steve, Mark Oerly, Lisa Porter, Mark Rohrbach and Sandee Eschenbrenner.

The Secretary's Report was presented and approved as written. Motion to approve was made by Debi Baumert and seconded by Lisa Porter.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and approved. Motion to approve was made by Lisa Porter and seconded by Debi Baumert. Mark Rohrbach reported that three (3) Certificates of Deposit are coming up for renewal this month. The Board agreed to approach Bryan Schoenthal for his input and accept his recommendation for the renewal of same. The motion was made by Debi Baumert and seconded by Mark Oerly.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Don reported that he is continuing to move forward on the installation of the three (3) spotlights at the front of the church along with the overhead, recessed light above the choir area. Butler Supply is providing the lights, etc. and Meyer is handling the installation.
2. The Board has learned that there will be no youth camps at Camp Aurora this year. There is a possibility of Camp Aurora allowing private camps. So, in the event enough of our families are interested in a Family Camp Weekend, it might be arranged. We will keep you informed.
3. Regarding the recent damage to the church structure, the shingles have been replaced. However, Don will be contacting another contractor for the overhang and fascia board repair.
4. Mark Rohrbach presented the June bills. The motion for payment of same was made by Mark Oerly and seconded by Debi Baumert.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A new Bulletin Board is needed for the Sanctuary. Debi Baumert has agreed to purchase same. The motion was made by Mark Oerly and seconded by Lisa Porter.
2. Mary Lou Bieri has requested a shelf for next to the piano in the Sanctuary. Don has agreed to speak with her for specific requirements and follow up her request. The motion was made by Mark Oerly and seconded by Lisa Porter.
3. Bryan Schoenthal has advised the Board that after checking our sound system, it requires some tune up. The motion for approval to allow Bryan to move ahead was made by Mark Oerly and seconded by Lisa Porter.
4. The Board has granted approval to Mackenzie Strother to have her wedding in the church sanctuary next March, 2021. The motion was made by Lisa Porter and seconded by Debi Baumert.
5. The Board is open for suggestions regarding the painting of the "now" white wall behind the altar. Please speak to a Board member if you prefer a color instead of the white - and suggest a color.
6. Debi Baumert will be contacting Goans Landscaping regarding bush trimming. The motion was made by Lisa Porter and seconded by Sandee Eschenbrenner.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Steve presented his monthly report, including some mileage. He is continuing to make calls to shut-ins and is planning to take communion to those who are comfortable with same. He advised that he has signed up for an upcoming seminar. This summer's sermon topic is Proverbs. He also advised that the Moniteau Church is going to continue online services.

Don advised that our next Board Meeting will be held on Monday, July 20th at 6:30 PM.

The motion to adjourn was made by Lisa Porter and seconded by Sandee Eschenbrenner.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandee Eschenbrenner, Secretary

Upcoming Events:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Sunday, June 21st | Sunday School/9:30 AM
Worship Service/10:30 AM
Sunday School Picnic Family Night/6:00 PM |
| Thursday, June 25th | Alex Imhoff Annual Blood Drive/3:00 to 7:00 PM/Community Building |
| Sunday, July 12th | Communion |
| July 13th thru 16th | Vacation Bible School |
| Monday, July 20th | July Board Meeting/6:30 PM |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Please be advised that our annual Mission Fest is scheduled for Sunday, September 20th at 10:00 AM. This will be a combined service with our sister church and will be held at the Moniteau Church. No Sunday School or Worship Service will be held at St. Paul's that day.

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*No Family Night in July			1	2	3	4
**Vacation Bible School – 13 th -16 th 6:30 – 8:55 p.m. each night			DeAnn Strother			Larry Borts Dwayne Croy
5 Connor Gorman Phillip Marshall Alden Rohrbach Ercell Wegener	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Ben Marshall	Jeff Reimler Don Ernst	Alyssa Reynolds Amanda Selby	Corrina VonderHaar	
12 Communion	13 Vacation	14 Bible	15 School	16 ----->	17	18
	Gary Marshall Gary Reynolds	Oliva Meisenheimer Reed VonderHaar			Dalton Imhoff	Bryan Schoenthal
19 Donna Gentsch Alicia Glenn Tony Meisenheimer	20 Church Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23	24	25
	Susan Borts	Mary Lou Bieri	Sue Ann Reynolds	Gary Taggart		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Jessie Birkmann Michelle Marshall		Gary Schoenthal Hadley Clay Hayden Clay	Violet VonderHaar Kristy Gatlin		