

St Paul's Evangelical Church

Edition 2, Volume 11
November, 2018

Guest Article by Karen Smith

Cancer—for some that means fear of death, but I can't really die. For me "to die is gain." When I received my breast cancer diagnosis, it didn't frighten me. My worries were: What is this going to cost us financially? How will it affect my international ministry? Who will fill in for me? Will I be able to keep tutoring? I have needed to remind myself that, not only "to die is gain," but "to live is Christ." I am His. This is His ministry, His schedule, His family, His bank account, His situation! My God can be trusted to supply substitutes, money, time, and everything I need. I can also trust that "my students" are His to teach, even if I can't do it.

Through my need to communicate with others about my cancer (mostly because of scheduling!), I've learned some interesting things about people. The responses I receive are a good indicator of their spiritual beliefs. From my atheist and non-Christian friends and students I receive encouraging denials in some form of "You'll be fine." From my Christian friends and family I receive encouraging personal stories and assurances of their prayers. Those closest to me encourage me to look for how God wants me to use this—after all "...we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28 ESV) I've been amazed at the love and encouragement from our Christian family—many whom we hardly know. I thank you all for your prayers, kind words and cards.

Relying on God, and trusting him completely, is comforting in hard times. I can welcome something which seems bad, knowing it is for good. I have peace that my atheist friends cannot understand. "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (Romans 5:1-5 ESV).

We want to encourage you to share what God is doing in your life. If you would like to write an article for the Newsletter, please let Pastor Steve know toward the beginning of the month.

Church Events

Sunday, November 4 – Evangelical Council Meeting at Moniteau Advent 4:00 pm

Monday, November 19 – Board Meeting 6:00 pm

Wednesday, November 21 – Community Thanksgiving Service at Baptist Church 7:00 pm

Sunday, November 25 – Communion

Family Night: Denny and Judy Wittenberger, Natoma Elliott, Ryan and Chris Rutledge, Raleigh and Kim Nott, Roy and Sigrid Nott, and Mary Kay Watson.

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November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Lori Porter	3
4 Evangelical Council Meeting at Moniteau Advent 4:00 pm Darrell Knierim	5 Stephen Derendinger, Glenda Dietzel, Liana Kuhn, Jenice Taggart	6 Bob Marshall	7 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Youth Group HS 6:30-8:15 & Middle School 6:30-8 Middle School Youth Group going to Sky Zone, leaving church at 5:30 pm. Returning at 9 pm Colton Glenn	8 Christy Heimericks	9	10
11 Debbie Birkmann	12 Geraldine Taggart	13 Zach Reimler	14 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Youth Group HS 6:30-8:15 & Middle School 6:30-8	15	16 Seth Rohrbach	17 Lucas Knierim; Katherine Rohrbach; Rynley Kate Gatlin
18	19 Board Meeting 6:00 pm Sterling Cassil, Ginna Meisenheimer, Barb Barbe	20	21 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Community Thanksgiving Service at Baptist Church 7:00 pm Emily King	22	23	24 Kate Reimler
25 Communion Ron Marshall	26 Hilda Schoenthal	27	28 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Youth Group HS 6:30-8:15 & Middle School 6:30-8	29 Marcy Oerly, Eli Marshall	30 Misti Reynolds, Olivia Oerly	

Becoming--Middle School Youth Group

We have been exploring the character trait of contentment. Because God is a gracious Giver and has promised to supply all our needs according to His riches in glory in Christ

Jesus (Phil. 4:19), we can be generous toward others in His name. A few weeks ago, we looked at the parable of the stewards (Mt. 25:14-30) and gave each teen \$5 to invest for Jesus. It was exciting to hear how some had used that money to 'build the Kingdom.' As we move (continued)

(Middle School Youth Group continued)

into November, we will be looking at the character trait of thanksgiving. It is interesting that prayer is to be proceeded by thanksgiving—in other words, we are to recognize what God has already done and thank Him for that before we ask Him to do something else or more. (Phil. 4:6-7).

On November 7 we are planning a ‘fun night.’

We ask you to pray for us. We need leaders to work with Pastor Steve, Kathy Reimler, Sandy Gerlach and Sharon Flippin. If you have an interest in being part of what God is doing to change lives among the Middle Schoolers, please let Pastor Steve know. Blessings.

WWJD

Attendance at WWJD continues to be strong, as we averaged 31 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 the books of the Bible and songs that they learned last year.

The children are also enjoying the introduction of stories of the Bible during devotional time. On October 3, Allie the puppet alligator told us about Adam and Eve disobeying God and having to leave the garden. Even so, God was with them and cared about them.

A new puppet friend, Lilly the Lion, visited on October 10 and told us the story about Noah and the Ark.

On October 17, Pastor Steve began telling the children the story of Abraham. They learned that God made a promise to Abraham to give him land and a child. Abraham and his wife Sarah traveled to Israel and, while they waited 30 years, were blessed with a son Isaac. Pastor Steve told the children to remember that God always keeps His promises. (conti

(WWJD continued)

Continuing the story of Abraham on October 24, Pastor Steven told the children there came a time when God asked Abraham if he would sacrifice Isaac back to God. Abraham obeyed God and took Isaac and two servants, climbed up a hill, built an altar, and was going to give his son back to God. But God stopped him, saying that by being willing to sacrifice his son, Abraham had proved his love to God. God provided him a ram to sacrifice instead. Pastor Steve told the children that just as Abraham was willing to give God his best, we must be willing to give God our very best, because God gave us His best in his son Jesus Christ.

Youth Group

After several weeks of in-depth conversation and thinking, the youth group had a free day on Wednesday October 17th. We went to Midway Golf & Games where the youth had all kinds of different fun options such as mini-golf, go-carts, and batting cages. The most exciting part of the beginning was right off the bat when the New Hope church van wouldn’t start. Fortunately, we had an expert mechanic (Alden Rohrbach) along who informed us the vehicle needed to be in park (not reverse) before it could start back up again. We had a great evening and the car troubles were held to a minimum!

Over the past month we have looked at James 2 & 3 which talks in part about taming the tongue and faith vs. works. These topics are as relevant as ever right now, especially with social media making it easy to voice ones opinion to the world. Throughout the upcoming month we will look into qualities such as wisdom, meekness, and humility then dive back into worldly vs. heavenly thinking.

Please pray for Kelly, Ben, and myself as we try to shepherd the flock. Pray for the youth in our community as they seek to find meaning and purpose in life and that they would look to God and not to earthly and temporary pleasures.

St. Paul’s Evangelical Church Board Meeting October 14, 2018

St. Paul’s Evangelical Church Board met on Sunday, October 14, 2018. Present were Don Gerlach, Ted Rohrbach, Kim Marshall, Lisa Porter, Susan Borts, Barb Oerly 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 17, 2018, meeting was reviewed. Kim 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. Lisa made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report and Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- Church website calendar entries – The fall walk details need to be added to the calendar. Pastor Steve will call the California Democrat following the walk to get details in the paper. Barb will send Paulette an email to get the details in the bulletin.
- Church record book – Lisa continues to work on the record book
- Estimate to paint black metal on exterior of church – we received an \$850 bid to paint all the metal work on the outside of the church. Susan made a motion to move ahead with getting the painting done and Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Church walkthrough – we will do one after meeting
 - Following the meeting the board did a walkthrough of the church. It was decided that we need to have all carpets cleaned. We hope cleaning them will delay the need to purchase new carpet. The sanctuary has many cracks in the walls especially at the back-west corner. This is something the board will discuss to see what repairs should be considered, if any, and presented to the congregation.
- Classroom space – we will look at this during walkthrough
 - Classroom space will continue to be discussed.
- Stewardship report – Ted will email it to us
- Care pack program – Collection totes will be put out in November to provide food in December and January
- Homeless Ministry – A tote has been put in basement for the bags once they are ready
- Communion Plates – Kim is working with Anna Marie Hendrix to replace them.
- Library use of basement – no longer needed
- Pew silencers – if there is no update by end of October we will consider other options

New Business:

- Next board meeting – Monday, November 19 at 6:00 pm
- Outside water leak at kitchen – down spout fixed
- Water leak under kitchen sink – hose sprayer needs replaced; Don will fix this
- Potential new board members – Kim and Susan are going off the board. We need to be thinking about replacements for them.
- Items for Evangelical Council Meeting – scheduled for November 4 at Moniteau. Susan will start looking at the Evangelical Council Calendar.
- Pastor Evaluation – will complete it after board meeting adjourns
- Annual Meeting – What do we need to talk about at the meeting. The board would like to discuss the contribution report that is completed for each family at the end of the year. Barb will send an email to Hailey to ask the congregation if there needs to be changes to the 2019 Family Night host schedule.
- Christmas Program – Sunday School is still looking for a director for the program.
- Note on freezer – The board discussed the note on the freezer. The board wants to make sure everyone knows that if you put something in the freezer or refrigerator that is for a specific group it should be marked as such. If something is not marked it can be used by anyone.
- Salvation Army – Ted is going to check on Hurricane Relief donations that can be made through the Salvation Army.

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, sermon planning, visits and mileage detail.
- Ministerial Alliance – Pastor Steve reported that there were five (5) pastors at the last meeting.
- Mission Fest – The board believed that the feedback on the Mission Fest speaker was very good.
- Voice of Martyrs – this is a free publication that Pastor Steve would like to order and place in church for members to pick up. He is going to order 25 copies.

Next board meeting will be Monday, November 19, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Lisa made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barb Oerly
Secretary

A Thanksgiving Challenge

We are invited to 'enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.' (Ps. 100) We are told that we are to accompany our prayers with thanksgiving (Phil. 4:6-7). The reason is simple. If we recognize God's goodness to us in the past, we will be able to trust Him with our future. If we are unable or unwilling to thank Him for what He has already done graciously for us, why should we expect Him to do anything else for us? November is a month that focuses on thanksgiving---recognizing what God has done and having the good manners to say, "Thank You, LORD!" Here is the challenge---during the month write down as a family as many things as you can for which to give thanks to God. In giving thanks, you are to recognize that God is the source and that He did not owe it to you. See how many you can think of, write day by day, leave this list on your table so that it is easily available.

(If you are getting the newsletter by email, print this page.)

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