

# St Paul's Evangelical Church

## The Messenger

Edition 4, Volume 9  
September, 2021

### From the Pastor's Desk

I have a neighbor that is building a house for his family—not contracting, but planning, procuring, building with his own hands. I have never attempted such a task. I have done some remodeling but not building a home from a pile of wood and raw materials. I have purchased houses which others have designed and built, but that is different. It is different to look at a finished product and decide whether I like it or not (or rather whether my wife likes it or not) and having a piece of ground, lumber, a hope and a dream in mind and going to work, day after day, to make the dream come true. Houses don't just happen. A person doesn't simply begin to throw lumber together and expect it to be a house/home.

If a house requires planning, procuring, putting in the time to build, if it is impossible to have a house that we enjoy and can be proud of without planning and work, if houses don't just happen by chance, is it reasonable that a life that is worth living just happens by chance? A life well lived, satisfying and significant, requires planning, prioritizing, preparation and day-to-day 'building.' Just like with a house, where the house is drawn ('This is what we want it to look like and the layout we would like.') and then the blueprints need to be drawn up ('This is how we need to build a house that will look like that.');

even so, we have to have an end view of life and then plan on how to get there, what we need to do and to build into our lives for it to turn out the way we would like.

Some people simply want to enjoy life—they define what brings them enjoyment and pursue those activities. You may or may not have done much thinking about the end of your life, maybe you just let life happen and you respond day by day. But, we are told that one day we will all stand before the LORD Jesus and give account. On that day, I want to hear Him say to me, "Well done thou good and faithful servant enter into the joy of your LORD." To reach that goal, day by day, I need to think about how I spend my time, money, energy, opportunities. Someone said,

Sow a thought and you reap an act.

Sow an act and you reap a habit.

Sow a habit and you reap a character.

Sow a character and you reap a destiny.

Our lives become a series of actions that are gradually solidified into habits and character—often without us knowing it. What thoughts are you filling your mind with? How are those thoughts being translated into actions, habits, character and destinies? What do you desire Jesus to say to you on that day? What changes do you need to make now?

### Church Events

Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> – FFA Breakfast, Community Building, 8-9:30 a.m. / Community Labor Day Service, Shelter House, 9:30 a.m.

Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> – Church Directory Photographs @ Moniteau

Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> – Church Directory Photographs @ St. Paul's

Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> – Mission Fest, St. Paul's, Co-hosted by Moniteau, Guest Speaker from Faith Maternity Care (Meal to follow)

Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

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## **Mission Fest, Sept. 19, 2021**

This year we will be hosting a representative from Faith Maternity Care (out of Fulton) to come and share what God is doing to care for moms that are struggling. Moniteau Advent will be joining for the morning service and the carry-in dinner afterwards. In order to prepare our congregations for Faith Maternity, we are sharing a little information. Read through and be praying for this Mission Fest.

Faith Maternity Care is a non-profit with two sources of funding - donations and a federal grant called the Alternatives to Abortion Grant. We serve pregnant women throughout the state of Missouri who are 18 or older with little to no income. We believe every life is a precious gift from God.

In 2020 we provided services to 34 women - 11 who lived in the residence and 23 who were non-residential clients. The average residential stay was five months. The women were between the ages of 20 and 38. Just imagine...in the last year an entire classroom of babies will grow and live because their moms had another choice instead of abortion. We work to help them after they make their choice. Our grant allows us to serve these women and their babies until their babies reach their first birthday.

We provide case management services and work to build a village of support around these women and their babies. That includes connecting them with social services to meet their needs, such as employment and childcare resources, narcotics/alcohol recovery groups, and mother/children programs. We provide advocacy when they are working on reunification with older children in state custody. We make sure clients have transportation to appointments.

Our daily life looks much like yours at home. Every resident receives a Bible of their own. We pray for each other during our morning meetings, and we read and discuss devotionals during dinner every night. We hold Bible Studies and encourage fellowship through the church of their choice. We take turns making dinner and completing a household chore (staff included). Every resident receives in-home trauma therapy. Every month we determine goals to work towards safety and independence, and every day we take steps towards those goals. We inspire each other by sharing our successes and comfort each other when things seem overwhelming...and we see God at work every single day.

A non-negotiable stipulation of residency is that every client must complete our parenting classes curriculum. Fathers are encouraged to participate. For every class completed a client earns five "Baby Bucks" and saves them to spend in our on-site Baby Boutique. We organize our donations in this store and moms shop for the supplies they need for their babies (diapers, wipes, furniture, clothes, bath items).

Some women need our services but do not need a place to live. These women become our non-residential clients. We have five rooms, fully furnished, for our homeless moms. One room is a family room where a homeless mom can stay with up to two of her older children. We provide food, shelter, and utilities for our residents. We provide rent and utility assistance for our non-residential clients. These women often come from abusive situations. Some are escaping harmful families. Others are recovering from being victims of human trafficking. Most come with nothing but the babies in their bodies and a prayer that they can find a way to build a good life for them. Serving them is a privilege and the most joy-filled work I can imagine, even on the difficult days.

While these courageous women worry about their futures I worry about the here and now. Most of our moms do not have transportation, and we are trying to save money to buy a new van to replace our decrepit one. The residence needs new windows, but replacing them will destroy our fragile siding, so the siding will also need to be replaced. We have moldy insulation in our Baby Boutique and storage area that needs to be replaced. Any help from St. Paul's Evangelical Church to keep our home safe and running would be very appreciated. The need is great - we are currently at capacity. I am happy to answer any questions. God bless you, and may you always find joy in His work.

## Sermon Series

As I look forward to the fall, I suspect it will be a time of uncertainty. The book of 2 Peter is a book written to tell Christians how to live in uncertain times. After Labor Day, we will begin to walk through the book of 2 Peter.

### Memory Verses for September

Be working on this important verse from 2 Peter 1

*Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord 1:2*

Be working on this verse as a family. Blessings

## Simple Ways to Make a Difference

As the Fall begins, we encourage you to become a prayer warrior for the community, the school (administration, teachers and students) and the youth groups. We are looking to begin the Senior and Middle School Youth groups. We are actively recruiting a prayer team and laborers for WWJD. We ask you to pray—the Bible says, “You have not because you ask not. You ask and receive not because you ask amiss, to consume it on your own desires.” James 4. There are few prayers that God would like to answer more than changing the lives of parents, teachers, students for Jesus.

## Update on the Jesus Storybook Bible

We have given out nearly 60 Jesus Storybook Bibles in the last few months.

There is a second book that Mary Kay and I would like to make available to families of children, elementary and young teens: **I Am, 40 Reasons to Trust God**. It explores the various names and descriptions of God in the Bible: Creator. Comforter. Healer. Friend. God's names tell us who He is, what He is like, and what He does. ***I Am***, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, including ***Jehovah Jireh, The Lord My Shepherd, Immanuel, Rabbi***, and ***I Am***. If you would like a copy, please let Pastor Steve know. It is a great way to share the Gospel and also to begin helping parents teach their children about Jesus.

Also, there are copies in back of “Parent Life Magazine” to give to a friend. On the first page it has a very good and simple Gospel presentation

## Update from the Dettmans

“We have to talk about Jesus ... cause I had a dream after reading the Holy Bible.” A few days after arriving, some members of the short-term summer group went out to meet students and encountered Frank\*. They shared the gospel with him, and he asked each of them how Jesus and the gospel message had changed their lives. He had already begun to read the Old Testament and said he wanted to know if Jesus was the only way. He said he wanted to see a miracle, so they encouraged him to pray that God would reveal Himself. About two weeks later, Frank messaged about seeing Jesus in a dream! Praise God that He reveals Himself in powerful ways, and pray with us for Frank, that God would continue to reveal Himself and that we would be able to reconnect with Frank in the Fall! In June, we hosted our first ever summer group in Southwinds. It was well worth all the preparations and arrangements it took to get them there. It was such a blessing to get to know them, share our love of Southwinds with them, and work with them. They all had a huge heart for the Lord and a genuine love for meeting students and sharing the gospel with them. At the end of their trip, in answer to the question “what would you tell someone who was considering coming on a [trip] next year,” every person wrote: “do it.” In just over a month, they were able to have spiritual conversations with 113 students and share the gospel with 46 people. Many of them grew in their knowledge of God as they saw Him answer specific prayers, such as “send us someone to talk to” (and immediately a student approaches THEM and starts a conversation) or “help me get into a spiritual conversation” (and immediately a student asks what religion they are). Praise God for paving the way for them to come and for the way He worked in and through them during their time in Southwinds!

## Good Books

You might encounter a good book, buy it, read it and then it sits on your shelf. It is too good to throw away and it collects dust. If you have a good book that has especially helped you in your walk with the Lord Jesus and would like to make it available for your brothers and/or sisters in the church, please bring it to the pastor's office with a brief note including your name, whether you desire the book to be returned to you, and how it helped you in your spiritual life. When you find a book that helps you, be assured that it will also help others. I am reading two books on the ‘gender’ issues of today---“Irreversible Damage” (not written by a Christian, but by an insightful, concerned

individual about gender dysphoria) and “Lord Thy Body” (written by a wonderful Christian lady about the importance of our bodies, how we view them, how that affects abortion, euthanasia, gender identity).



## Church Directory Pictures!!!

Reminder! Church directory pictures will be taken at St. Paul's church on Thursday, September 9, and Friday, September 10, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. each day. Pictures are being taken at Moniteau on Tuesday, September 7. (Your picture can be taken at either church.) If you haven't signed up for a timeslot yet, please contact Nancy Haldiman at 573-690-8528. Each family will receive one complimentary copy of the directory. If you would like to purchase additional copies, please let Nancy Haldiman know (price of additional directories will be based on final cost, not yet determined). You will have the option to purchase copies of your picture, but you are under no obligation to do so. If you would like to purchase pictures, the prices are shown below:

Package A: 1- 8×10, 1- 5×7: \$15.00  
Package B: 1- 8×10, 2- 5×7, 2- 4×6: \$30.00  
Package C: 2- 8×10, 2- 5×7, 4- 4×6: \$55.00  
Individual Print Pricing: 4×6 - \$10, 5×7 - \$10, and 8×10 - \$12

## Senior High Youth Group

At the time I'm writing this update, Ben, Kim, and myself are preparing for the first Youth Group meeting of the semester tonight August 25th. We are excited to start another year and see what God has in store for us and the youth. For week one, we plan to grill, enjoy fellowship, have a short devotional, and play water balloon volleyball! Starting next week, we will kick off our discussion series on the Beatitudes. The beatitudes are a unique series of statements that describe how we can be blessed by God. You would think God would bless people that are pure in heart, refrain from sinning, have power and influence, and go to church every Sunday. God may very well bless these people but what He lists in scripture are people who are poor in spirit, meek, mourn, and get persecuted.

It's easy for me to define the success or failure of the youth group by the number of people that show up on Wednesdays. God has blessed this group, and we have had great attendance but if nobody is growing spiritually what good are we doing? Ben, Kim, and myself need your prayers that God would work through us and through the youth during our fellowship and discussions. The more I grow in my faith, the more I realize how little control I have and how much I need to rely on God.

As always, your prayers are essential for the Youth Group to be successful. Pray for the incoming freshman that they would attend and make it a weekly habit. The year can be a grind for us leaders so pray that God would often refresh us and encourage us.

# St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting

Monday, August 20, 2021

The August Board Meeting was called to order by President Debi Baumert and opened with prayer led by Pastor Steve Watson.

Those in attendance were Debi Baumert, Mark Rohrbach, Pastor Steve Watson, Ben Marshall, Nancy Haldiman, Mark Oerly and Sandee Eschenbrenner.

The July minutes were read and approved. The motion to approve was made by Ben Marshall and seconded by Nancy Haldiman. Motion passed.

The July Treasurer's report was presented by Mark Rohrbach. The motion to approve was made by Mark Oerly and seconded by Ben Marshall. Motion passed.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Photo Directory: Nancy Haldiman presented the Board with a sample form that each family/person will be asked to complete prior to having their photograph taken. This completed form will ensure that the correct names, addresses, and telephone numbers are included in the new directory. Nancy also presented the Board with a list of everyone scheduled for a photo session and a list of those not yet signed up. Those not scheduled will be receiving a reminder from someone on the Board. We are hopeful this new directory will include all of our church family. Remember, you do not need to be a "member" to be included in the directory.
2. Atkins Cleaning Service: Due to several occasional complaints regarding the cleaning of the Fellowship Hall, Debi recently met with their local manager. In order to establish exactly what service we can expect, it will be necessary to check the original contract. This is being done.
3. Church Library: Karen Smith has received the surveys and will begin to go through the current materials on hand. Further information will be provided as the process continues.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Hand Rails: After some discussion, the motion to place several hand rails near the piano and the altar area steps was determined to be a good option. The motion to accomplish this was made by Ben Marshall and seconded by Mark Rohrbach. Motion passed.
2. Record Storage Cabinet: It has come to our attention that too much of the church paperwork, history and records are difficult to find and are stored in various areas throughout the church. Therefore, the Board decided to get a bid for building a new wall-to-wall cabinet to be located in the Nursery Room on the south wall. The motion to obtain this bid was made by Nancy Haldiman and seconded by Mark Oerly. Motion passed.
3. Pastor Evaluation Form: Both St. Paul and Moniteau Churches voted at the last joint Council Meeting to create a new Pastor Evaluation Form. Debi Baumert and Andrew Rohrbach have been working on this project and Debi presented the Board with a draft for our review.
4. Projector Screen: The Board discussed purchasing a projector screen. In the past, we have borrowed one. Ben Marshall will investigate prices, etc. and advise that information at our next meeting. The motion was made by Ben Marshall and seconded by Nancy Haldiman. Motion passed.
5. Communion Trays: After some discussion, the Board decided that Mark Oerly would look into the purchase of new trays. The current trays are very heavy when stacked and filled with wine. There is also some difficulty with the glasses sticking when communion is being served to the congregation. The motion for Mark to do this research was made by Nancy Haldiman and seconded by Ben Marshall. Motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Steve presented his report regarding calls, visits, in-home communion, and expenses for July. He advised that a change has occurred regarding the Labor Day Service at the Shelter House. Pastor Tolliver was scheduled to preach but is now unavailable so Pastor Steve will provide the message. The service is at 9:30 AM. Jessie Rohrbach will be providing the music. Dennis Maxwell and Don Almond will lead the service.

Pastor Steve further advised that the Middle School Youth Group will have a cookout on Wednesday, August 25th. This group could still use another couple to help each week. Talk to Pastor Steve to volunteer.

Also, after speaking to Dr. Guitard at the Jamestown School, she suggested we not start WWJD until after Labor Day. We continue to need some volunteers to help prepare the breakfasts for this group. Talk to Pastor Steve or any Board Member. The devotion leaders are Pastor Steve, Elaine Ernst, Dennis Maxwell, Don Almond and Patty Waldron.

REMINDER: We are always looking for someone to provide Special Music. If you know of someone who might be willing and available, please encourage them and pick a Sunday. The sign-up sheet is on the Bulletin Board at the rear of the Sanctuary.

Debi advised that our next Board Meeting will be on Monday, September 20th at 7:00 PM. The motion to adjourn was made and passed. The meeting was closed by all reciting The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandee Eschenbrenner

UPCOMING EVENTS:

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Wednesday, August 25th  | Middle School Youth Group Cookout                 |
| Sunday, September 5th   | FFA Breakfast/Community Building/8:00-9:30 AM     |
|                         | Community Labor Day Service/Shelter House/9:30 AM |
| Tuesday, September 7th  | Church Directory Photographs/Moniteau             |
| Thursday, September 9th | Church Directory Photographs/St. Paul             |
| Friday, September 10th  | Church Directory Photographs/St. Paul             |
| Sunday, September 19th  | Mission Fest/St. Paul/Co-hosted by Moniteau       |
|                         | Guest Speaker from Faith Maternity Care           |
|                         | (Meal to follow service)                          |
| Monday, September 20th  | Board Meeting/7:00 PM                             |

FAMILY NIGHT HOSTS for September: \*Mark & Marcy Oerly  
(Mission Fest) Rusty & Leisa Hees  
Seth & Lyndsey Stauffer  
Stephen & Barb Oerly  
Carol Oerly

# September 2021

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri   | Sat                                |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Family Night Hosts/Hostesses:</b><br>*Mark & March Oerly<br>Rusty & Leisa Hees<br>Seth & Lyndsey Stauffer<br>Stephen & Barb Oerly<br>Carol Oerly            |   |  | <b>1</b><br>Youth Groups Meet   | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br><br>Diane Fowler       |
| <b>5</b><br>FFA Breakfast @<br>Community Building<br>8-9:30 a.m.<br><br>Community Labor<br>Day Service @<br>Shelter House<br>9:30 a.m.                         | <b>6</b><br><br>Andrew Nott<br>Patti VonderHaar   | <b>7</b><br>Church Directory<br>Photographs @<br>Moniteau<br><br>Charles Dishion | <b>8</b><br>Youth Groups Meet<br><br>Neta Dishion                                       | <b>9</b><br>Church Directory<br>Photographs @ St.<br>Paul's | <b>10</b><br>Church Directory<br>Photographs @ St.<br>Paul's<br><br>Anna Hees | <b>11</b>                          |
| <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b><br><br>Kirby Baumert<br>Ted Rohrbach    | <b>14</b>  | <b>15</b><br>Youth Groups Meet<br><br>Morgan Walters<br>Lauren Imhoff<br>Christen Haile | <b>16</b><br><br>Stephanie Birkmann                         | <b>17</b><br><br>Barb Oerly   | <b>18</b><br><br>Stacy Scheidt     |
| <b>19</b><br>Mission Fest, St. Paul's,<br>Co-hosted by Moniteau,<br>Guest Speaker from Faith<br>Maternity Care, (Meal to<br>follow service)<br><br>Sigrid Nott | <b>20</b><br>Church Board Meeting at<br>7:00 p.m. | <b>21</b>  | <b>22</b><br>Youth Groups Meet  | <b>23</b><br><br>Keeley Klund                               | <b>24</b><br><br>Bill Birkmann<br>Argo Stauffer                               | <b>25</b><br><br>Paulette Reynolds |
| <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b>   | <b>28</b><br><br>Vicki Reimler   | <b>29</b><br>Youth Groups Meet  | <b>30</b><br><br>Rusty Hees                                 |   |                                    |