

St Paul Evangelical Church

Edition 1, Volume 1
September, 2017

Pastor's Pen

Some of my dear friends had a son who simply was not growing. As a baby it was not noticeable—after all babies start out small—but as his first, second, third, fourth and fifth years came, it was obvious that something was wrong. Taking him to a doctor and the doctor running tests, they discovered that Michael had a deficiency in a certain hormone. With the proper treatment, care and consistency, Michael is now a full grown man of average height. But, it took the parents recognizing that he was not growing physically.

There are other kinds of growth—emotional, intellectual, spiritual. It is harder to evaluate if an individual is growing in those areas because they are less easily seen. Nevertheless, growth in those areas is as essential as physical growth. How does one know if he (or those that he loves and cares for) is growing spiritually? If there is a problem, what can be done about it?

Growth is change in a positive direction. Growth is not simply change. Growth is development—usually in the direction that is seen as beneficial. Though we are well aware of what that might be physically (growing in strength, growing in athletic skills, growing in talents), the question is, “What does it look like to grow spiritually? It’s

not measured with a ruler, so how do I know?”

We are commanded to “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.” 2 Peter 3:18 This verse gives us three guidelines to spiritual growth. I want to begin with the middle one, “grow in . . . knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” Ask yourself, are you getting to know Jesus better and better every day? Are you learning more about what He thinks, what He feels, what He is passionate about? Someone might say, “How can I know those things?” He has given us His Word so that we might know those things. You can’t grow in knowledge of Jesus if you do not spend time with Him and His Word. Secondly, growing in grace means that you are becoming like Him (full of grace and truth). When people look at you, do they increasingly see Jesus? Lastly, if we are growing spiritually, we will increasingly be bringing Him “glory both now and forever!”

Are you growing spiritually? If not, why not? What are you going to do about it? If so, how can you keep up the momentum? If you are unsure if you are growing or not, perhaps you ought to spend some time in prayer asking Him to help you see where you are, how you can grow more, how you can help others?

Church Events

Sept. 3rd—Community Labor Day Service, 9:30 am, There will be an FFA breakfast before the service

Sept. 13th—WWJD begins—for information contact Susan Borts

Sept. 15-17th—National Convocation in North Carolina, for information contact Pastor Steve

Sept. 17th—Pastor Russell Cobb will be our guest speaker while Pastor Steve is at the convention. Sunday School Rally Sunday

Sept. 24th—Mission Fest. Our missionary Nick Dettmer will be with us sharing what God is doing in his ministry and through your prayers. There will be a carry in dinner following the service.

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What we believe

We believe the 66 books of the Bible are the inspired Word of God, the Holy Spirit having superintended the writing by godly men. (2 Tim. 3:16, 2 Pet. 1:21)

God desired to communicate with man in an accurate way. In order to do that, the Holy Spirit 'moved' upon holy men to write down what God wanted to say in a way that we could understand. The 66 books (39 Old Testament and 27 New Testament) have been recognized to represent God's Word to His people. Paul describes these as being 'God breathed' (inspired), meaning that they come from the mouth of God. As such, they form the basis of what we believe and what we are to do as Christians. Although there are other books and writings that may be helpful, we do not recognize these as having the authority of the 66 books in our Bibles.

Because the Bible is God's word to us we ought to:

1. Read it daily, praying for God to help us understand.
2. Apply it to our lives when we see it telling us what we are to do or how we are to live.
3. Evaluate what people say in light of the Word of God.

The Bereans were commended in Acts 17—"These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of heart and searched the Scriptures daily to see whether those things were true."

Other passages which might be of encouragement in the study of God's word: John 15:7, Joshua 1:8, Ps. 119:9,11

Where we are going

There are a lot of things beginning in September and we will need your help, your prayers, your patience. Added to that, Pastor Steve and Mary Kay will be leaving to go to the National Conference in the middle of the month.

The **Teen Group** is beginning and Seth Rohrbach is leading using material called 'Epic.' This 6 part series helps people understand what God is doing from eternity past to eternity future. We are excited to see the group come back together. In time past, a mission trip has been used by God to motivate the teens to serve Jesus. We need your prayers as we look forward to planning this. Pray for Seth and for this group of teens.

This fall, Pastor Steve will be leading a **Confirmation Class** for middle school teens. It is aimed at establishing them in their faith, helping them discover the gifts and abilities God has entrusted to them and eventually taking their place in the church Body, serving and growing together. The Marshall family has graciously offered to use the Chester Marshall Memorial fund to purchase Bibles for the teens. We thank Goldie and her family.

In October, we will be looking at becoming an over-comer—We do not have to live defeated lives—we can overcome loneliness (Oct. 1), fear (Oct. 8), feelings of inferiority (Oct. 15), frustration (Oct. 29) and guilt (Nov. 5). Pray for this series and perhaps invite and bring a friend who needs to hear from God's Word how to be an over-comer.

Notes from Mary Kay

Our Great God (called 'Most Holy' throughout Jeremiah) has brought us together, here in Jamestown, for this time. I love being in our beautiful little part of Missouri with Steve—the longer we are here, the more content I become . . . just so you know! Since He has also seen fit to allow me to struggle with flare ups of several chronic syndromes, I have been absent frequently at church family get togethers and services. This communiqué, I hope, will give a taste of who I am and some of what I am passionate about.

I recently made a trip (seeing kids and grandgirls on the way back) through Nebraska into Colorado with 3 women friends who I go out of my way to be with several times a year—we were headed to a conference outside of Ft. Collins, CO: Living Proof Live by Beth Moore. Beth is a particularly gifted student of the Bible and never fails to speak directly to my friends and me when we hear her. I am passionate about women growing into just who God created each to become. Our media constantly tells us we need to look, to have, to be, to strive for . . . everything and anything except what God desires and has created for us. Women of every age are created for oneness with the God who created us; we do this by letting what He says replace what we may think or believe, guide or direct what we do each day, transforming what we feel or trust to satisfy. There is nothing more beautiful than a woman who loves God and loves what He loves. It is my hope that He use me to influence, only for good, the women He places me amongst.

*Maranatha. . . Come quickly Jesus,
Mary Kay*

(A postscript, if I may: Living Proof Live with Beth Moore is scheduled in Colombia, MO July 13-14, 2018 in Mizzou Arena—that's a God-timing thing!)

September, 2017

Birthdays are in italics

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3 FFA breakfast Labor Day community service, 9:30 am	4	5 Bible Study, 7pm	6 High School youth group, 6:30 <i>Andrew Nott Patti VanderHaar</i>	7 <i>Charles Dishion</i>	8 <i>Neta Dishion</i>	9
10 God's Word, Jn. 4:35 <i>Anna Hees</i>	11	12 Bible Study, 7pm	13 WWJD High School youth group, 6:30 <i>Kirby Baumert Ted Rohrbach</i>	14 National convention begins going through Sunday	15 <i>Morgan Imhoff Lauren Imhoff Christen Haile</i>	16 <i>Stephanie Birkmann</i>
17 Pastor Cobb will be sharing Sunday school rally Sunday <i>Barb Oerly</i>	18	19 Bible Study, 7pm <i>Sigrid Nott</i>	20 WWJD High School youth group, 6:30	21	22	23 <i>Keeley Klund</i>
24 Mission Fest Nick Dettmer <i>Bill Birkmann</i>	25 Board meeting, 6PM <i>Paulette Reynolds</i>	26 Bible Study, 7pm	27 WWJD	28 <i>Vicki Reimler</i>	29 <i>Truman Schoenthal</i>	30 <i>Christ Baker Rusty Hees</i>

WWJD

WWJD (Wednesdays With Jesus Devotionals) for the 2017-18 school year will begin on September 13. Children are welcome to arrive between 6:50 and 7:10 a.m. to participate in activities. At 7:10, we will pray and breakfast will be served. About 7:30 the children will gather for a children's devotional, following which they will be escorted to school along the sidewalk from St. Paul's Church by several adult volunteers.

If you would like to volunteer in this children's ministry by helping with activities, breakfast preparation, or leading the devotion, please contact Kathy Gerlach, our volunteer coordinator, at 573-291-5973. If you have any questions about the program or need registration forms, please call Susan Borts at 660-849-2188 or e-mail at sborts@hotmail.com. You can also call Kacey Clay at 660-849-2222 or e-mail kc11604@yahoo.com.

Teen Times

The Teens began their youth meetings on August 23 and had a great time of fellowship. They played games, reconnected from summer break, made personal pan pizzas. Seth began to share plans for the fall both for fun nights and also for Bible study.

Seth will be using a program entitled EPIC which gives the 'big picture' of what God is doing in the world, beginning in eternity past and looking forth to eternity future. God is writing a story and you are a part of that story, it has heroes and villains, rescues and dangers. The Bible study will be six episodes beginning August 30 going into October. There will be no youth meeting September 6th because of the Jamestown Lion's Club Labor Day Celebration. The feeling was that there will have been so much activity that week that people needed to rest and regroup.

We are in need and invite your prayers for a man and lady to come alongside Seth to help with the youth group—it is simply too much for Seth alone and we need some help in the planning of a summer mission trip.

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting, July 24, 2017

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board met on Monday, July 24, 2017, in the church basement. Present were Ted Rohrbach, Marcy Oerly, Don Ernst, Kim Marshall, Susan Borts, Barb Oerly and Pastor Steve Watson. President Ted Rohrbach called the meeting to order and Pastor Steve opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary's report: The secretary's report from the June 28, 2017, meeting was reviewed. Don made a motion to approve the minutes and Kim seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Don gave all board members a copy of the treasurer's report for the month ending June 30, 2017. Barb made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Susan seconded the motion. Motion passed. Don noted that the Steiner Fund has been exhausted and the Food Pantry offering was \$1,874.00.

Old Business:

- Ted and Stephen Oerly will discuss PA system in basement.
- Susan gave a VBS update. The week went very well, averaged 58 in attendance and many volunteers helped. Susan and Karen will have a wrap up meeting. There was discussion on cost sharing based on attendance between St. Paul's and GUMC. Susan made a motion to pay 90% of cost for VBS and GUMC 10%. Marcy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Susan will call GUMC about this. Cost sharing will be discussed with Moniteau Advent at next Evangelical Council meeting.
- Mission Fest is scheduled for September 24. Nick and Erica Dettman will be here.
- Pastor Steve provided an overview on the upcoming confirmation class program. A meeting will be scheduled with parents and youth to discuss the best time to schedule confirmation classes. Pastor Steve is going to look into Bibles to purchase for the youth being confirmed. Kim Marshall is going to talk to the Marshall family about purchasing the bibles with money from the Marshall memorial fund.
- Larry Borts will call Rick Goans after July for a quote with recommendations on what yard work needs to be done and cost.
- Don reported that worker's comp insurance will cost \$900 per year. Susan made a motion to purchase worker's comp insurance and Kim seconded the motion. Motion carried. We have a proposal to increase building and content insurance coverage. An appraisal has not been done. We can also add a rider for stained glass window coverage for a nominal amount. Proposal increases building coverage to \$954,000 and content coverage to \$143,000. Today the cost is \$3,631 and increase would be \$89. Don made a motion to approve insurance quote with suggested increase and other riders as needed. Susan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- We will discuss Financial Peace University at the next Evangelical Association Council meeting. Moniteau Evangelical is postponing their session until the winter time frame.
- Cleaning of church siding has been done. Some paint touchup will also be done. Barb will send a thank you note to Walt Imhoff from the church board.
- The wi-fi password changed with the installation of the new modem.

New Business:

- All current bills have been paid.
- Dennis Maxwell contacted Susan about school supplies for the Back to School Fair. To date they have about one half of the supplies donated. Kim made a motion to give \$100 to New Hope for school supplies. Barb seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Don made a motion and Marcy seconded the motion to hire Hailey Croy to complete the monthly Messenger. Motion carried. We need to evaluate what we want the Messenger to be as we move forward.
- Labor Day service on September 3rd, sponsored by Ministerial Alliance, was discussed. Pastor Steve will take care of the bulletin. Pastor Tom Fair is in charge of the program and getting a speaker. Ted will pick hymns and see if Jesse Rohrbach will lead music. We will need helpers to get 100 chairs from the church for the service.
- Ben will be in charge of the children's softball game at the August family night. Children's softball game starts at 5:00. We will eat at 6:00 followed by ice cream and an adult softball game.

Discussion items with Pastor Steve:

- Mileage and pastor's report received.
- Pastor Steve recommended a cart be purchased for the projector. Pastor Steve will move forward to purchase the cart.
- A doctrinal statement was reviewed for comment.
- Pastor Steve gave copies of the membership brochure to all board members for review and comment.
- Pastor Steve will be gone Sunday, October 22.
- The Board let Pastor Steve know there is a community Thanksgiving Eve Service.
- Pastor Steve wanted to know if there was any input on the sermon series through the end of the year.
- Pastor Steve found a book that would be nice to give visitors. It is \$2.00 each. He is looking for input on the idea.

Other new business

- The hinge on the left door of the PA system is broken. The exterior door by the choir room sticks. The door by the youth classrooms has to be pushed shut. Don is going to look at all of them.

Next board meeting will be Monday, August 21 at 6:00.

There being no other business Barb made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barb Oerly, Secretary

