

# St Paul's Evangelical Church

## The Messenger

Edition 1, Volume 5  
January, 2021

### From the Watson Household

*What a year 2020 has been for us all! Such a good practice in not relying on our own insights and understanding which are called into question daily. But learning in more and more practical, everyday ways to lean into and build life on who we know our God to be . . . And He has proven to be so very, very good.*

*We both continue to delight in the place and people God has settled us in and among these past few years. What a privilege it is! Both that God allows Steve to be actively 'pastoring' within the church and community and that our churches and community care well for us and for one another spiritually and physically.*

*I focus on caring for my husband, children and grandchildren. Steve demands little care being quite self-sufficient when I am gone from home to one of our "kid's" homes . . . but we both like it best when we are home together in Jamestown. Truly, in this "home" which is only so temporary, we are "home" to one another. God has enriched our family with each grandchild (2 granddaughters this year and another grandchild on the way in the spring). If we have learned nothing else, we know God is the Giver of children: each carefully created by His breath and especially for Himself. Our standard prayer each time we are able to be with our children and their families is that God make us a blessing to them which they will "feel and know." We are able to "see" evidence of His moving and working in their lives—a beautiful and sweet declaration of love for Jesus, singing of songs or dancing praise to music about Him, a childish recitation of a thought from scripture carefully quoted, a small child's delighted exclamation: "Grandma, Jesus LOVES me!"*

*Many years ago I read an autobiography by Helen Rosevear who was a missionary doctor from England to what was then the Congo. She gave her entire adult life in medical missionary work to the people she lived among and trained them so they were able to take over the work . . . and near the end of her life, they no longer needed her to maintain ministry with them. She effectively worked her way out of a job—and it was very painful! But only painful when she looked at the circumstance and herself. When she looked at Jesus, she remembered that at the start of her life's work "Jesus and Me" was enough and so she reclaimed that focus and was able to, with delight, say, "Jesus and me is still enough!"*

*My prayer, and Steve's, for each of you very loved ones is "May Jesus and you be enough as we close out this crazy year 2020 and move onward into 2021.*

### Church Events

Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> – Communion

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting at  
6:30 p.m.

### 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](mailto:ecmc.steve@gmail.com)

Website: [Stpauljamestown.org](http://Stpauljamestown.org)

Messenger: Julie King  
[stpaulsjamestown@outlook.com](mailto:stpaulsjamestown@outlook.com)

## Memory Verse for January

Be working on this important verse

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul and with all your mind.*

*Mt. 22:37.*

Be working on this verse as a family. Blessings.

## A Simple way to share the Gospel



The Wordless Book by Child Evangelism Fellowship uses these five colors to explain the message of the gospel.

**GOLD** ~ God wants us to be in heaven with Him.

**BLACK** ~ Our sin separates us from God.

**RED** ~ Christ died on the cross as the only payment for our sin.

**WHITE** ~ Accept God's forgiveness and the free gift of eternal life.

**GREEN** ~ Grow closer to God every day.

## Sermon Series

"Taking Inventory, Focusing Our Lives"

We want to look at Colossians 1 as we begin the new year—

## New Board for Coming Year

The church board is here to serve you, to help you in your spiritual walk with the LORD Jesus. For the coming year:

President—Debi Baumert (573) 619-9958

Vice President—Ben Marshall (660) 281-9935

Secretary—Sandee Eshenbrenner (660) 849-2661

Financial Sec—Nancy Haldiman (573) 690-8528

Communion Steward—Mark Oerly (573) 796-3862

Treasurer—Mark Rohrbach (573) 301-0585

We appreciate the service of Don Gerlach and Lisa Porter for these last three years.

## 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 into the pastor's office with a brief note including your name, how it helped you in your spiritual life and whether you desire the book to be returned to you. When you find a book that helps you, be assured that it will also help others.

## Sharing Your Story

It is encouraging to hear how God has worked in your life. If you would like to write a short article about how God has provided or protected, or led, or strengthened, please take the time and write it down. Send that part of your story to pastor Steve at [ecmc.Steve@gmail.com](mailto:ecmc.Steve@gmail.com) to be included in the coming newsletters. The Gospel of Mark tells the story of a man that was delivered from demons. *"As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him.<sup>19</sup> And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."<sup>20</sup> And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled."* (Mark 5)

When we tell others what He has done for us, it glorifies Him, it encourages others ("What He's done for others, He'll do for you" principle) and He uses it in their lives. If you don't know how to start that conversation try this: "I am just so excited, I have to tell somebody. You will never believe what the Lord did for me . . . "

## Update Contact Information

It is important for any group or organization to be able to communicate quickly, completely and accurately. There are a number of methods of communication—The Messenger (newsletter) is one of those, as well as mailing, phone, texting and email. In an effort to communicate better, you will be asked to update information and asked if we can share that information with the church family. You will be receiving a mailing we need you to respond to.

## Membership Sunday in March

Once upon a time, a rancher had a herd of cattle—he knew them, recognized them, built a relationship with them and he cared for them. One day a few other cattle just came to his pasture. He didn't know who they belonged to, he didn't know how long they would stay, but he was a kind man and shared his pasture and grain and water with them. He didn't run them off and he didn't know where they belonged—but he knew that the day might come when they would wander off to another rancher's pasture or that someone would come to claim them and take them away—because they did not belong to him.

People are not cattle, which are bought and sold, but they do need to belong. Unlike cattle that have no choice to whom they belong, people can choose to belong to a church fellowship—not simply show up, but express their desire to belong and willingness to be a part. In a real way, anyone that has trusted in the LORD Jesus for salvation is a part of the 'church universal'—that group of believers from the time of Jesus to the return of Jesus from every tribe and kindred. But, within the 'church universal' there must be smaller groups that can know, care for, support, help one another—that is what a local church is to be.

Just as a shepherd is to know his flock (who belongs and how they are doing), so the pastor is to know his people—people who have said, I desire this pastor and this local fellowship to care for me, to pray for me, to encourage me, to weep with me, to walk with me. That is what membership in a local church is to be, a visible, public commitment, not only of being part of the 'church universal' but of being a part of a smaller group that works together for the King and Kingdom.

Membership in a local fellowship is to be a visible expression of an unseen spiritual reality (I have trusted in the LORD Jesus for salvation, I belong to Him). Membership in a local fellowship is to be a visible expression of God's leading (I believe God would have me serve Him here among these brothers and sisters). Membership in a local fellowship is a visible expression of commitment (You can count on me and I will count on you).

We will be having a Membership Sunday in March to welcome all that believe God wants them to make that commitment. If you are interested, if you have questions, please contact one of the church board or pastor Steve. (319-640-7009).

## Youth Groups

We have struggled to have meaningful time with the teens this fall. The Senior High Youth group has met, but we have mirrored the school, trying to maintain and complement both the school's schedule and their COVID practice. The Middle School Youth group did not meet this fall—however, we did have Christmas parties on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> for both groups. We ask you to pray for us, we would like to begin in January with a consistent time of meeting for both groups.

Due to COVID concerns, WWJD continues to be suspended.

The Senior High Youth Group is still planning a summer mission project heading to an area around Indianapolis to serve the LORD Jesus. Pray for them as they make plans this spring. '

## Senior High

We were fortunate enough to be able to meet for Youth Group throughout December. Though we are currently on break over the holidays, Ben, Kim, and I are excited to get the semester started back up! During our last meeting in December, we had each of the youth write down a question they had about God, faith, Christianity, etc. We encouraged them to ask tough questions and not to hold back and the youth certainly didn't! The questions range from "How do dinosaurs fit in with the Bible?" to "If God is so good, then why has he taken loved ones from me and my family?" to "How can God be his son, Jesus and himself?" To start next semester, we will look at these questions and attempt to answer them.

Please pray for Ben, Kim, and myself as we prayerfully consider these questions and pray that with the Spirit's guidance, we could provide a good answer. Pray for the youth that their hearts would be opened up to receive the good news of Jesus!

--Submitted by Seth Rohrbach

# St Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting

December 21, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Don Gerlach and opened with prayer led by Pastor Steve.

The minutes of the November 16th meeting were read and approved. Mark Rohrbach made the motion and Mark Oerly seconded. Motion passed.

Mark Rohrbach presented the Treasurer's Report. Motion to approve the report was made by Debi Baumert and seconded by Mark Oerly. Motion passed.

The first order of business was the reorganization of the Church Board. Mark Rohrbach nominated Debi Baumert to be the new president. Ben Marshall made the motion that nominations cease and Nancy Haldiman seconded the motion. Motion passed. After electing a new president to preside, Don Gerlach and Lisa Porter were excused from the meeting. The next order of business was to establish the new slate of officers for 2021. After some discussion, the slate was developed and is listed below. The motion to accept the slate was made by Mark Rohrbach and seconded by Mark Oerly. Motion passed.

Debi Baumert -	President
Ben Marshall -	Vice President
Mark Rohrbach -	Treasurer
Nancy Haldiman -	Financial Secretary
Mark Oerly -	Communion Steward
Sandee Eschenbrenner -	Secretary

## OLD BUSINESS:

1. Our first discussion revolved around our Church Record Book. It was decided that it should remain in the church safe and be available at each Board Meeting so it can be updated monthly as new data occurs.
2. Pastor Steve advised that the new water sensor has been installed. Kirby Baumert's telephone number was made available in the event a problem occurs.
3. The new spotlights have been installed upstairs at the front of the church and are working properly.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. The church is now connected to CoMo Electric and we will cancel business with Century Link.
2. Mark Rohrbach presented the month's bills. The motion to pay same was made by Mark Oerly and seconded by Nancy Haldiman. Motion passed.
3. Ben Marshall agreed to work on updating the Memorial Plaque and the Church Record Book.
4. Reminder: At our annual Meeting, the Board asked if anyone currently serving on a specific committee wanted to be removed or changed. The board needs to be advised before January 18th so we can find a replacement. You may contact Debi Baumert at (660) 849-2573. At this time, we need a volunteer to provide our Sunday morning Special Music. Again, please contact Debi Baumert or another Board Member to offer your services.
5. It was brought to the Board's attention during our Annual Meeting that the upstairs carpet sweeper and one of the refrigerators needed to be replaced. The Board has since learned that the second refrigerator is leaking

water. Thus, it was decided that Ben Marshall would research and report results regarding the purchasing of a new vacuum and two (2) new refrigerators. The motion was made by Mark Rohrbach and seconded by Nancy Haldiman. Motion passed.

6. Several months back, we advised the congregation that we would provide pictures of the altar area with different furniture arrangements. We delayed action due to the virus and a decrease in our worship attendance. We are again considering this situation, but have decided to table any further action until after the holidays.

7. The Board decided that the Family Night Schedule for 2021 will remain the same as 2020. Copy enclosed.

8. Mark Rohrbach suggested buying a larger supply of stamps for church mailing rather than our current method of one roll each time. Nancy Haldiman made the motion for him to proceed and Ben Marshall seconded the motion. Motion passed.

9. The Board was advised that Julie King would like to update our Messenger mailing list and also ask again how each family prefers to receive the Messenger. As the Board discussed this, it became apparent that while doing this mailing, perhaps several other informational questions could be included. Thus, we discussed including updating landline telephone numbers and cell numbers - and Church Record Book information. Pastor Steve advised that he is considering a Membership Sunday in March and this mailing could also include asking if anyone is interested in joining the church at that time. Ben Marshall volunteered to work with Julie and Susan Borts (last updated Messenger list) to see if all of these questions could be included in one questionnaire.

10. Mark Rohrbach would like to purchase an additional microphone for the church's use. Nancy Haldiman made the motion to accept Mark's offer and Mark Oerly seconded the motion. Motion passed.

11. Debi Baumert is going to draft a new Communion Schedule for 2021 and will present same at the January meeting. We will also be looking at scheduling our designated offerings for 2021 in that meeting.

12. Ben Marshall brought up the topic of again live streaming our worship services via St. Paul's Facebook. This would require purchasing new and correct equipment. The Board agreed to give this some thought and it was tabled to the January meeting.

13. Ben also reminded us that we need to remember to welcome those we've missed lately and also to greet and welcome anyone new. A good reminder for all of us.

Pastor Steve was excused and the board went into executive session.

Ben Marshall made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Mark Oerly. Motion passed. The meeting was closed by reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandee Eschenbrenner

#### Upcoming Events:

Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve Service/7:00 PM, Offering to Healing House

Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> - Communion

Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> - Board Meeting/6:30 PM

Note: No Family Night scheduled for January.

# January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day	2
3  Alison Gorman	4	5	6 HS Youth group 6:30- 8:15  Debi Baumert Lee Bieri	7  Hudson Clay	8  Rachel Marshall	9
10  Communion	11	12	13 HS Youth group 6:30- 8:15	14  Gail Muri Lexi Muri Alli Muri Mark Oerly Charlotte Rohrbach	15  Joyce Rohrbach	16  Natalie Bish
17  Bryce Schoenthal	18 Martin Luther King Jr.  Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.  David Knierim Brenda Selby	19  Amos Rohrbach	20 HS Youth group 6:30- 8:15  Steven Gentzsch Virginia Strein	21	22  Natalie Glenn	23
24	25	26  Jennifer Schoenthal	27 HS Youth group 6:30- 8:15	28	29	30
31	<b>No Family Night in January</b>					

# 2021 Family Night Schedule

## **JANUARY 2021 (None)**

### **FEBRUARY 2021**

\*Ben & Kim Marshall  
Don & Elaine Ernst  
Ercell & Sharon Wagener  
Harold & Mary Haldiman  
Norma Porter  
Noland & Lisa Porter

### **MARCH 2021**

\*Patti VonderHaar  
Tony & Trisha Meisenheimer  
Barry & Heidi Eschenbrenner  
Mark & Lisa Rohrbach  
Barb & Dason Klund

### **APRIL 2021**

\*Gary & Geraldine Taggart  
Lucas & Christy Heimericks  
Jenice Taggart  
Gary & Paulette Reynolds  
Denny & Glenda Dietzel

### **MAY 2021 (None)**

\*School Activities

### **JUNE 2021 (Sunday School Picnic)**

\*Charles & Neta Dishion  
Tim & Amber Wilson  
Kathy Reimler  
Bob & Lisa Marshall  
Lashley & Joyce Rohrbach

## **JULY 2021 (None)**

### **AUGUST 2021 (Softball and Ice-cream)**

\*Jennifer Long  
Seth Rohrbach  
Andy & Kacey Clay  
Nick & Katie Smith  
Nicholas & Teresa Schoenthal  
Barry & Sandee Eschenbrenner

### **SEPTEMBER 2021**

\*Mark & Marcy Oerly  
Rusty & Leisa Hees  
Seth & Lyndsey Stauffer  
Stephen & Barb Oerly  
Carol Oerly

### **OCTOBER 2021 (Fall Walk)**

\*Steven & Courtney Borts  
Don & Sandy Gerlach  
Larry & Susan Borts  
Mary Lou Bieri  
Gary Schoenthal  
Bryan Schoenthal

### **NOVEMBER 2021**

\*Mary Kay Watson  
Ted & Sara Rohrbach  
Denny & Judy Wittenberger  
Natoma Elliott  
Ryan & Chris Rutledge

### **DECEMBER 2021 (Annual Meeting/Noon)**

\*Larry & Sue Ann Reynolds  
Doug & Jackie Cowgill  
Danny & Brenda Haldiman  
Darren & Nancy Haldiman  
Kirby & Debi Baumert

Note: The \* denotes lead host family each month. Responsibilities are to contact other family night members on the schedule to coordinate the evening.