

St Paul's Evangelical Church

Edition 3, Volume 2
February, 2019

Pastor's Pen

It is always good to get our bearings as a church—it is beyond question that the church (any church) is to exist to bring God glory. That is what sets the church apart from every other group or organization in the community. We uniquely represent Jesus and are entrusted with His message to the world—no other group is entrusted with such a lofty and supernatural and eternal purpose. We have the promise

Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus
from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the everlasting covenant,²¹
make you complete in every good work to do His will,
working in you what is well pleasing in His sight,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. Hebrews
13

Notice that His equipping and working in us is ultimately aimed at bringing glory to Jesus. In other words, an effective church does everything ultimately to bring glory to Jesus.

God is glorified by changing lives.

First, God is glorified as He works in our lives, changing us, making us into the image of Jesus (Rom. 8:29, Eph. 2:10). He works in our lives to produce a person filled with grace and truth (Jn. 1:14). By His Spirit producing love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Second, God is glorified by working through our lives to help others come to know Him, trust Him, love Him and walk with Him.

There are some specific things that we can and ought to do:

1. Pray that God will make your life what brings Him glory.
2. Look around at those that God brings into your life. In His name
Pray for them

Care for them

Share with them what Jesus has taught you. Share
with them what you have come to know about Jesus.

Church Events

February 17th – Nursing Home Visit

February 17th – Communion

February 17th – Family Night at 6 pm

February 18th – Church Meeting at
6:15 pm

Family Night:

Harold and Mary Haldiman, Noland and Lisa Porter, Ben and Kimberly Marshall, Don and Elaine Ernst, Will and Kirstyn Conley, Ercell and Sharon Wegener.

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February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Chris Baker
3	4	5 Michelle Phillips	6	7 Byron Haldiman	8 Janet Reimler	9
10 Addison Marshall	11 Jenny Cain	12	13	14 Nancy Haldiman	15 Brooke Imhoff, Hannah Marshall, Clark Rohrbach, Charles Schoenthal, Judy Wittenberger, Kathy Reimler	16
17 Nursing Home Visits Communion Family Night at 6 pm	18 Church Meeting 6:15 pm	19	20	21	22	23
24 Lyndsey Stauffer	25	26	27 Terisa Knierim, Valerianna Gentzsch	28 Deborah Bernnan, Robyn Eschenbrenner		

Coming—where are we going?

We began a series—Things that are True

Things that are True of God

Things that are True of this world

Things that are True of you.

We are continuing that series into February and post the texts on the website for you to read ahead and prepare.

Come and join us in worship. Be sure to check out our webpage StPaulJamestown.org, for updates on things happening. There is a page for calendar that we will try to keep current with the latest information on what is happening at the church. If you appreciate the effort that goes into maintaining the webpage, invite your friends to visit.

Becoming—

Middle School Youth Group Update

We began meeting again after the holidays and are focusing on a very simply set of truths.

God is awesomely great

God wants to spend time with you

The question is, “Do you want to spend time with Him?”

Focusing on His greatness, we are desiring to encourage our teens to learn to spend quality time with Him in prayer and reading His word, learning keys to prayer and to getting the most out of reading our Bibles.

We need:

1. Prayer warriors that will pray for the workers/teens
2. Workers—we are always looking for people who want to make a difference in lives. If God is laying that on your heart, perhaps you should consider working with the Middle School Youth Group which meets Wednesday, 6:30-8pm

WWJD

WWJD resumed on January 9th following the school Christmas break. Despite the cold and snowy mornings, there has been an average attendance of 27 for the month of January. During activity time, the children have been working on Valentine magnets and cards to be distributed in February to nursing home residents.

Devotional time during January has concentrated on the Bible story of Elijah, a prophet of God whose name means "My God is Yahweh (the name of God in the Old Testament.)"

On the first Wednesday, Pastor Steve opened with a Bible passage from James 5:16: "The fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." He then related this passage to the story of Elijah who had lived at a time when King Ahab of Israel and his wife Jezebel urged the people to believe in the false god Baal. Elijah told the King that it wasn't going to rain for three years unless Elijah said it could. Warned by God to fear for his life, Elijah hides near the brook of Cherith where ravens brought him bread and meat. When the brook dried up, God sent Elijah to live with a widow, blessing the woman's oil and flour so it did not run out. And like the widow, when we are open to God's will, He fulfills all of our needs, and His mercy to us never runs short.

Pastor Steve continued with the story of Elijah on January 16th to a time when Elijah said there would be a contest on Mt. Carmel between the prophets of Baal and himself that would prove who the true God was. The prophets built their sacrifice and called to Baal but he did not answer and nothing happened. Elijah built his sacrifice to God and prayed. God answered Elijah's prayer by sending a big ball of fire from heaven that consumed the entire sacrifice, showing His people that He alone is God and there is no other. God answers prayer powerfully, and we know we have a God in heaven who hears the prayers of His people.

The children learned more about Elijah from Pastor Steve on January 23rd. Fearing for his life following threats by Jezebel, King Ahab's wife, Elijah hides all alone in a cave. First, God sent a powerful wind to blow past the cave. Next, there was an earthquake and then a fire. Finally, Elijah came out of the cave and heard the calm, whispering voice of God. Pastor Steve told the children that when somebody whispers to you, you have to listen (cont.) really hard and get closer to hear. Just like with Elijah, God wants us to listen to Him and to be near to Him. --Submitted by Susan Borts, Adult Leader

Confirmation

We have a confirmation class at Moniteau Advent with 7 young people. We meet on the second and fourth Sundays of the month in the afternoon and are looking at what we believe and building habits for the future—habits of reading the Bible every day, prayer, fellowship and witnessing. We are memorizing verses for each of those areas and are writing a personal doctrinal statement on the Bible, God (who He is and what He is like), Jesus, Salvation and the church. Please be praying for this time of formation.

High School Youth Group

Wednesday, January 23 was our first meeting of the new semester. Ben led the week one discussion about setting goals for your faith. We discussed some of the steps necessary for accomplishing those goals, and what things are keeping us from accomplishing our goals. We all filled out a worksheet where we actually wrote our goals down so we can see them every day and remind ourselves. Next week we will jump back into James starting with chapter 4.

One change we are making this semester is breaking out into small groups from time to time for the last few minutes of the evening. Basically, the group splits into thirds with Ben, Kelly, and myself each leading a group. We came to the conclusion that while we were having great discussion with many folks sharing their thoughts and opinions, some were intimidated by speaking in larger groups. We also felt that smaller groups would allow for more intimate conversation and may bring forth thoughts and ideas someone may not feel comfortable sharing with the entire group.

Also, we are currently taking beverage donations. Mt Dew is the preferred choice but fruit punch or something like that will get drank too. You can either give me your donations or just place them in the fridge in the youth group room.

Please pray for the youth group this semester that God will use it to change lives!

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting
January 13, 2019

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board met on Sunday, January 13, 2019. Present were Don Gerlach, Ted Rohrbach, Lisa Porter, Barb Oerly, Mark Rohrbach, Debi Baumert 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 December 17, 2018, meeting was reviewed. Lisa made a motion to approve the minutes and Mark seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report: A copy of the treasurer's report was given to all board members. Barb made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Lisa seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- Church website calendar entries – See below. LoCalendar is the program that will be used for the church calendar on the website at a cost of \$29.95 a year.
- Church record book – No new entries.
- Stewardship report – No update.
- Care pack program – No update.
- Homeless Ministry – No update.
- Painting and trim refinishing in church – The board will do a walkthrough on February 9 and assess the needed repairs. After the walkthrough, we will put together a list that can be used to secure bids. Bids will need to be presented to the congregation for consideration and approval. We will need to coordinate the best time to complete any repairs that are approved, considering the various activities held in the church.
- Sunday School and Youth Group space – This is something the board will continue discussing.
- Education Fund – The board can take funds from Pastor Steve's salary and put into an education fund. Any funds not used at the end of each fiscal year will go back to Pastor Steve as income.
- Audit of Books – The audit is complete. Don made a motion to give a \$50 gift card to Nancy Haldiman for completing the audit. Lisa seconded the motion. Motion passed. Lisa will pick up the gift card.
- Entity Authorization – Ted needs to give a signed copy of December minutes to the bank. Everything else has been taken care of with the bank.

New Business:

- Approval of bills – Lisa made a motion to approve payment of the bills and Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Care pack program – Ted will be the board contact for Heidi Eschenbrenner related to the care pack program.
- Church letterhead – Barb will contact Susan Borts to see if there is a soft copy of the church letterhead. It needs to be updated with new board information.
- Church cleaning – The board discussed some areas of concern in the basement related to the cleaning company. Don will visit with the cleaning staff about the concerns.

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. Going forward Pastor Steve will include information about phone calls and local visits in his report. At this time that information is not included.

Next board meeting will be Monday, February 18, at 6:15 pm.

Barb made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mark seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Oerly
Secretary