

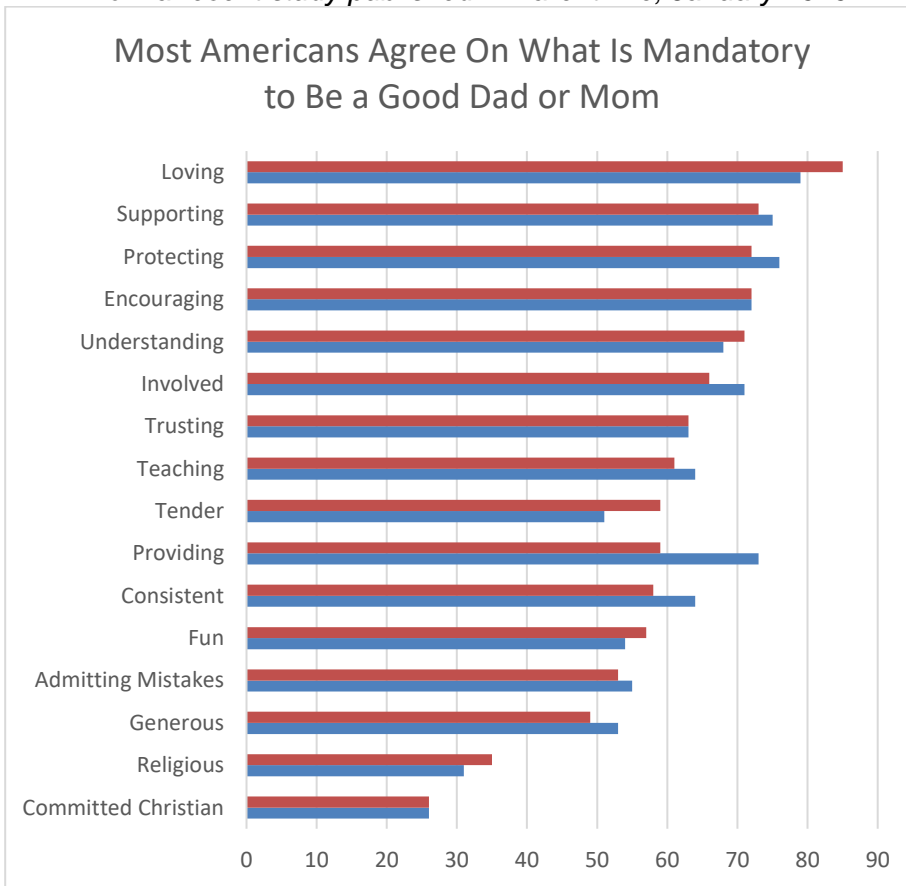
# St Paul's Evangelical Church

## The Messenger

Edition 2, Volume 4  
February, 2020

### From Pastor Steve's Desk

From a recent study published in Parent Life, January 2020



The top bar is the response of the moms, the bottom of the dads.

*It is interesting that for most Americans, religious and personal commitment to the Lord Jesus are of less importance in evaluating whether one is a 'good parent' or not. It indicates that most American parents do not value a relationship with Jesus in a significant way. These are frightening statistics if true. It looks like our work for Jesus is not getting easier.*

### Church Events

Feb. 9 – Nursing Home Visit

Feb. 16 – Family Night at 6:00 pm

March 6 – World Day of Prayer

March 8 – Salvation Army Offering

March 15 - Communion

#### Family Night Hosts:

\*Noland and Lisa Porter

Ben and Kim Marshall

Don and Elaine Ernst

Ercell and Sharon Wegener

Harold and Mary Haldiman

Norma Porter

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## Notes from Mary Kay

I have decided to entertain you with a few stories in my "Notes from Mary Kay" for our Newsletters related to "Child-Rearing." Steve and I are hardly experts. We were, however, given 5 lovely children into our care to "bring up." Today, they are all adults...and we REALLY like them!! They, of course, have no say in what their mother writes...but my aim is not to embarrass them nor brag about them. My aim is to share with you how Jesus worked in a very real way in the Watson household as imperfect sinners did their best to raise imperfect sinners. My "great desire" throughout my lifetime had always been to be a mother. My folks teased Steve when they first met him, that they knew this had always been my goal in life, and that I really didn't talk much about having a husband to be a father to my many children...which was...pretty much true as well...although I had never entertained the thought that I would have children out-of-wedlock! Very fortunately for me, God blessed us with our first-born a little over a year after we married. To my delight, children kept coming...a little more spaced out between each one...until, finally, we had 5 over the course of 12 years. I am a reader...so I avidly read everything I could find about child development and child raising. Two things stood out in my mind as very helpful. The first was a quote from Chuck Swindoll who said: "Say yes to everything you possibly can to your children," and the second was a book by Kevin Lehman called "Making Children Mind Without Loosing Yours." Besides gleaning everything we both could from others about raising children, we together understood that the "goal" of parenting was to raise independent, responsible human beings to be launched into society. Our personal desire for each of our children was that they would know and love the Lord Jesus. Chuck Swindoll also said about child-rearing that the Proverb which says "train up a child in the way he should go, and in the end he will not depart from it" means: God has created each child with his or her own "bent," "personality," "strengths," weak-

nesses," "gifts," and "abilities"...it is the parent's job to study and understand these and then to translate them effectively to each child so they understand themselves and how they "work." That is a big job...and takes a great deal of wisdom (fortunately God promises wisdom if we ask for it...so that's a sure thing...whether we fully recognize it or not). Using those ideas as a broad guide, and an attitude of constant "Help, Lord!" prayerfulness...we managed to corral, prod, teach, discipline, enjoy, love and launch them

In my thinking there are two critical times in a child's life when the fact that he (we had two girls...so just using the masculine for ease) is human with a sin nature come to the forefront and demands a great deal of prayer for wisdom to help the child maneuver with proper perspective through those ages. The first is generally referred to as "the terrible two's" (I've always disliked that term, and generally love a sassy, personality-filled two-year-old). Steve defines this time of life for the child as: a baby, until this time, IS the center of his universe...at around two years of age, the child needs to come to understand that he IS NOT the center of THE universe...and this is generally infuriating to him! To me, this is just exactly what a "terrible two" looks like! If parents are successful in letting their child live past the age of 2-3, and the child learns that he must share the spotlight, the next really critical time for the child is as he enters the teen years. About a teenager, I would first like to say: "these years are harder on the teen than they are the parent!". Secondly: "never forget your job as a parent is to launch this kid...he needs to grow independent and he needs to be responsible for his own independence." Again...this is not a job for mere human beings to try to manage alone. A continuous attitude of prayer for wisdom, insight and understanding from the Lord is required. And, again, He has already promised all of this to us if we ask...so keep asking! And, for fun, I'm going to include (over the next few months) some stories from the Watson-teen-years.

## Verse for February—Matthew 22:37

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

## Mission Update from the Healing House

RESIDENT PROFILE ~ Jess G. Meet Jessica or Jess G. as she’s frequently called. Jess came into The Healing House and New Beginnings program in September of 2018 and though she qualified to commence the program this past September, she decided to stay and participate another year.

Describing her life before coming to the program, Jess had one word... “Miserable.” Originally from Ozark, MO, Jess began using drugs at an early age, getting her first drug charge at 18. After going through Drug Court for a year and a half, alcohol became her primary problem and it affected every area of her life. She lost jobs, wrecked vehicles and could become violent during alcohol-related black outs. Jess went to Church Army faith-based recovery program while Executive Director Heather Gieck was a house manager there. Jess explains, “But I didn’t get close to God. I went through a year and a half of Drug Court, was kicked out of Church Army twice, would lose everything I ever had. Before coming to The Healing House, I was looking at going to prison for my second DWI with a 2nd Degree Assault conviction.” A passenger had been thrown from the vehicle and injured in an accident while Jess was driving.

Jess was familiar with The Healing House. After her friend Heather first returned to Jefferson City from her time at Church Army, Jess visited and was with her when they stood across from 1418 W. Main Street, praying for it to become The Healing House. Though Jess remained on her own for a while yet, when she was at this low place, she contacted Heather about coming to the program. Jess says that during her first several months in the program, she learned to do basic routines she had not established - getting up in the morning, going to work, classes, homework, chores. Through the first year, she had some reservations about being away from family. Jess was raised by her grandparents after her parents divorced when she was 8 and is especially close to her 91-year-old grandmother. Jess explains she was taking everything in that she was experiencing in the program and as her commencement drew near, she knew that for her, a year was not enough time and she wanted to stay.

(Continued from previous column)

Thankful for her sobriety, Jess explains aspects of life at The Healing House that help her in her recovery. “I realized I couldn’t do it without God. Being with people who are doing the same thing helps.” When asked why she’s been able to stay with the year-long program when not everyone makes it, Jess shared, “I realized if I’d go back out, I’d have to start over. I’d think, ‘I’m 30 years old – I need to get it together.’ People are depending on me for things. I’m tired of hurting people. Heather would remind me of what will happen if I drink again.” Then Jess recites the chain of events she wants to avoid.

Skilled at wood working, Jess has been employed with Toby’s cabinet shop since the beginning of 2019. The Lord had a hand in her getting that position and her personal growth has helped her keep it. Jess is on the House of Prayer Family Church worship team, playing guitar since July. About her healing journey she says, “I’ve known everything about the bad of who I am. Now I’m learning about who I can be.” ~~~ God bless you, Jess, as you continue becoming all God plans for you! Phil 1:6

## *Becoming—*

### *A Middle School Spiritual Journey*

Using a resource, “The One Minute Bible for Students” we are developing a habit of daily Bible reading. After a break for Christmas, we started back on January 15. Since it was the beginning of a new year and our reading began with the Genesis and John accounts of creation, we looked at our world and the competing ‘world views’: 1) God created the world (which, when you think about how big the world and universe are, then you understand how ‘big’ God must be) and the second world view that leaves God out, that the universe came into being on its own. We talked about how, if the universe came into being on its own, then there is no real purpose or design---but if God created the world, then there is purpose and design. We asked the middle schoolers to look around and understand that wherever they see purpose and design, that demands a creator; whether the purpose and design have to do with a painting or a watch or (on a grander scale) the universe. We ask you to continue to pray for the middle school youth group teens.

## Sermon series beginning in February

"I Am",

A poem by Helen Mallicoat

*I was regretting the past,  
and fearing the future.  
Suddenly my Lord was speaking:  
"My name is I Am."*

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*He paused. I waited.  
He continued...  
"When you live in the past,  
with its mistakes and regrets,  
it is hard. I am not there.  
My name is not I WAS.*

---

*When you live in the future,  
with its problems and fears,  
it is hard. I am not there.  
My name is not I WILL BE.*

---

*When you live in this moment  
it is not hard. I am here.  
My name is I AM."*

We will be looking at the 7 'I AMs' of John beginning in February and moving into March.

Jesus said,

"I am the Bread of Life" Jn. 6

"I am the Light of the World" Jn. 8

"I am the Door" Jn. 10

"I am the Good Shepherd" Jn. 10

"I am the Resurrection and the Life" Jn. 11

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" Jn. 14

"I am the True Vine" Jn. 15

We will explore what Jesus said about Himself.

## WWJD

WWJD resumed on January 8th following the school Christmas break. We have had some cold mornings, but attendance has been good. Activities and a delicious breakfast continue each week.

On the first Wednesday, our devotional began with singing a few favorites from first semester, *Jesus is the King of the Universe* and *Amen, Praise the Lord*. Pastor Steve then told the story from Matthew 9:1-8 of how Jesus forgave and healed a paralyzed man. Likewise, God can work miracles in our lives and can forgive our sins. He is the only one that can do that, and He does that because He likes us and loves us.

During devotional time on January 15, our puppet friend Annabelle visited. She and adult leader Susan

Borts spoke to the children about faith. Annabelle told the story of Jesus and Peter walking on water found in Matthew 14:22-36. The disciples were in a boat that was caught in a terrible storm, and they were very afraid. But Jesus walked on the water to them, causing the winds to stop and the waves to calm down. He brought joy and took away their fear. He continues to do the same for us today. Seeking the Lord and having faith in Him can calm us and take away our fears.

Pastor Dennis Maxwell of New Hope Baptist Church led the devotional on January 22. After the children sang *Jesus Loves Me* accompanied by Pastor Dennis on his harmonica, he spoke with them about patience. He placed two large books upon a piece of paper and asked the children if they thought he could move the two books with the piece of paper. He quickly pulled on the paper, but it came out from underneath the books and they did not move. Pastor Dennis then used several verses from the Bible to talk about patience. "Wait for the Lord," Psalms 27:14. "Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation," Romans 12:12. "Love is patient, love is kind," 1 Corinthians 13:4.

When Pastor Dennis tried to move the books a second time, he pulled on the paper slowly, demonstrating patience, and the books moved with the paper. When we are impatient in our life, we need to trust God and wait on Him to make things right in our life.

There was no WWJD on January 29 due to the early morning snow which resulted in a late start at school. We are ready for warmer mornings and no more weather cancellations. We have Valentine crafts to make!

Submitted by Susan Borts, Adult Leader

## Senior High Youth Group

Youth group has been off to kind of a slow start this semester. It seems we have been having to dodge ball games and bad weather, but overall things are off to a great start! We are working our way through the Fruits of the Spirit in Galatians 5 and will be discussing Joy this week.

I would like to thank everyone who participated and gave generously to the mission trip fundraiser earlier in January. We had a great crowd and raised around \$3,700.

Please pray for Ben, Kim, and myself as we progress through the semester. Please also pray for us as we continue to plan for the mission trip in June and pray that God would prepare the hearts of the youth and adults going.

Submitted by Seth Rohrbach

## COMING ATTRACTION...

Family Night

Sunday, February 16, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

# *ALL CHURCH BIRTHDAY PARTY*



12 Decorated tables, one for each month of the year

12 Decorated Birthday Cakes, one for each month of the year

Carry-in Dinner at 6:00 p.m. (no desserts)

followed by Trivia and Mystery games

guaranteed to bring fun and laughter!!

Dessert will include: cake and ice cream

HOW CAN YOU HELP? Volunteers needed to make the 12 birthday cakes.

Please let Lisa Porter or Elaine Ernst know if you are willing to decorate a cake and which month you prefer. Be creative and use that hidden talent!!

COME ONE, COME ALL FOR AN EVENING FILLED WITH FUN!! SEE YOU THERE!!

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St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting  
January 20, 2020

In attendance, Don Gerlach, Mark Rohrbach, Mark Oerly, Debi Baumert, Lisa Porter, Pastor Steve, Barb Oerly (outgoing secretary to present minutes from December board meeting), Ted Rohrbach (outgoing treasurer to present December statement and to help Mark Rohrbach, incoming treasurer, to take over). Missing was Sandee Eshenbrenner, secretary (so Pastor Steve volunteered to take minutes for the January meeting).

1. Opened in prayer

2. Presentation by Shawna Williamson regarding the upcoming youth weekend at Branson (April 3-5), MO. In previous years, New Hope Baptist Church had underwritten the expenses of the weekend, but this year, because of planned renovation expenses they would be unable to underwrite the expenses. The youth weekend was discussed, but because of weather, the board waited for more information. Shawna wondered if St. Paul's would like to help underwrite the expenses—they would provide people to organize the event. Later in the meeting Penny Smith presented the financial needs to the board. It was felt that it benefited the youth, and that it gave an opportunity to minister to those youth that do not have a church home. The board, later in the meeting, approved donating \$1000 to the weekend awaiting further information. (Mark O. moved, Debi seconded, approved)

3. Secretary's report was approved. (Lisa moved, Debi seconded)

4. The treasurer's report was approved (Lisa moved, Mark R seconded). Debi informed the board of the decision by Grace Methodist to help underwrite the expenses of the Wednesday evening youth groups which was welcomed.

5. The church record book will be updated with the death of Billy Porter. There was a question about Nadine Hickam/s membership (at St. Paul's or at Pleasant Grove). We will contact Warren Graff (Pleasant Grove) to find out where she was a member for the proper record of her passing to be recorded.

6. Easter Community Service was discussed. There was a question of the host church this year. Pastor Steve will contact Pastor Bruce, Grace Methodist.

7. Barb Oerly shared the information that will be passed on to Sandee as Secretary and will get that information/book to Sandee.

8. Ted coached Mark on treasurer's responsibilities as the bills for the church were reviewed. Payment of the bills was approved (Debi moved, Mark seconded).

9. Yearly support contribution for the Evangelical Association was discussed. It has been \$600 to help with the expenses of running the Association. This amount was set several years ago and should in the future be evaluated. It was approved to keep the present level of support at \$600 (Lisa moved, Debi seconded)

10. Discussed the update/renovation for the church sanctuary. There was discussion about lighting and switch placement. Don will coordinate the lighting project.

11. Changing of the memorial policy statement of St. Paul's was discussed. It was moved, seconded and approved that the policy be left as it is for the present time.

12. Looked over family night schedule. Elaine will need 'monthly birthday cakes' (a cake for each month of the year with people sitting at the table reflecting their birthday month). Trivia is planned. It was decided to put in the bulletin the week before family nights, the people that are in charge of the family night for the month. Pastor Steve will contact Paulette.

13. The maintenance of the lighting was discussed. It was decided to pay Denny Dietzel to take care of that need for the church. He will be paid on an hourly basis. (Mark moved, Lisa seconded)

14. Don Gerlach will discuss with Don Ernst about the 'stage' for the basement. There were questions about the size and concern about the storage.

15. Discussion of the mission trip. With the money raised at the Family Feud, the need is close to being met.

16. Pastor Steve was presented with the congregational survey and will discuss thoughts at a future meeting. There was a discussion about how to make the communion time more 'reverent'—will need further thoughts, discussion and prayer. Also, there was a discussion of the confirmation program—the Board has been presented with material and will discuss it in the future finalizing thoughts before the next confirmation class. Pastor Steve's bills were accepted with the need for a receipt from CBD for copies of "The New City Catechism" for the board's consideration.

17. Upcoming dates were reviewed.

Submitted by Pastor Steve in the absence of Secretary, Sandee Eschenbrenner

# February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Family Night Hosts:</b> *Noland and Lisa Porter Ben and Kim Marshall Don and Elaine Ernst Ercell and Sharon Wegener Harold and Mary Haldiman Norma Porter						1
2 Groundhog Day  Chris Baker	3	4	5 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am  Teen/HS Youth groups 6:30-8:15  Michelle Phillips	6  Hailey Croy	7  Byron Haldiman	8  Janet Reimler
9 Nursing Home Visit	10  Addison Marshall	11	12 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am  Teen/HS Youth groups 6:30-8:15	13	14 Valentine's Day  Nancy Haldiman	15  Brooke Imhoff Hannah Marshall Clark Rohrbach Charles Schoenthal Judy Wittenberger Kathy Reimler
16 Family Night @ 6:00 pm	17 Presidents Day  Board Meeting at 6:15 pm  Luther Bish	18	19 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am  Teen/HS Youth groups 6:30-8:15	20	21	22
23	24  Goldie Marshall	25  Lyndsey Stauffer	26 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am  Teen/HS Youth groups 6:30-8:15  Ash Wednesday Service at Moniteau at 7:00 p.m.	27  Terisa Knierim Valerianna Gentsch	28  Deborah Brennan Robyn Eschenbrenner	29  Hesten Gatlin

## Messenger Articles

If you would like to submit an article to be included in the messenger, please email it to Julie King at [stpaulsjamestown@outlook.com](mailto:stpaulsjamestown@outlook.com), no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month before you'd like it to be submitted. Articles submitted after the 25<sup>th</sup> will be printed in the next month's messenger.

Submitted by Julie King

## Upcoming Important Dates:

March 8 – World Day of Prayer  
 March 8 – Salvation Army Offering

