

# St Paul's Evangelical Church

## The Messenger

Edition 4, Volume 5  
May, 2021

### From the Pastor's Desk

May 9<sup>th</sup> is Mother's Day—a day we set aside to honor our moms. There is so much that could be said. Mothers carried us for nine months, nurturing us as God formed our bodies. Ps. 139 says,

*"For You (O God) formed my inward parts;  
You knitted me together in my mother's womb.  
I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well.  
My frame was not hidden from You,  
when I was being made in secret"*

God knit us together as a craftsman makes a work of art (and we are a work of art). Recently, I met my newest grandson, Caleb Mathis Watson. I know that science tells us that a sperm from the father and an egg from the mother combined and the process of cell division and differentiation took place over the next few weeks and then the organs, bones, muscles, nerves, eyes began to mature and develop. It is an amazing thing, that the cells differentiate at the right time, in the right place, in the right way so that what is born is a complex body with a multitude of different cells with different functions.

It is a marvelous thing for the Lord to use a woman's body to form a new life and then entrust that new, eternal life to the care of a mom (along with a dad)—to feed, to teach, to protect, to prepare for life. One of the great joys and responsibilities of a parent is to help the child come to know and love the One that formed him/her.

In Proverbs 31 we are told of all the things that a mother does from caring for the house, making and caring for clothes, providing food for the family, doing business, caring for those that are less fortunate, helping her husband become respected, being wise, but the author of Prov. 31 concludes:

<sup>30</sup>Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;  
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

<sup>31</sup>Honor her for all that her hands have done,  
and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

The one characteristic above others which affects everything else she does is being, "a woman that fears the LORD." That is more than being religious, it is having a deep understanding of who and what God is, of loving Him and having a growing relationship with Him, of putting all of life in the proper perspective under His authority.

### Church Events

May 17<sup>th</sup> – Church Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Communion and Special Offering (Cemetery)

June 24<sup>th</sup> – Alex Imhoff Blood Drive at the Community Building

Note: No Family Night in May due to school activities.

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## *From Mary Kay*

*Mary Kay has been writing things for our children, experiences, thoughts. She wrote in response to the question: What things do you think you cannot live without?*

*“As we are nearing the end of 2020, I am able to say that the things which have happened in our lives throughout this year have shown me without a doubt that what I cannot live without is the God breathed and initiated relationship I have with Him. I have found throughout this past year that what I have that I am able to "pass on" to the next generations is the very solid bedrock of trusting completely in the God of the Bible- who He reveals Himself to be. Washing over and over my mind with His Word so that I recognize His voice whenever and wherever I "hear" it.”*

*With that in mind, take a moment or two and think prayerfully about what you ‘cannot live without.’*

## Notes from Healing House Ministry

Friends and loved ones of KiaraLynn Hantz (Kiara) gathered on February 6 at House of Prayer Family Church to celebrate her commencement from The Healing House and New Beginnings one-year program. Executive Director Heather Gieck shared in her opening remarks, “We use the term commencement instead of graduation because it’s not a completion but a humble, yet beautiful, beginning. A time of going forward and stepping into the beautiful life that God has purposed for Kiara.” She described Kiara and the heartwarming story of her arrival. “She is our baby. Kiara was 18 years old when she came – she’s 19 now.” A friend brought Kiara to the Healing House with her application in hand one night when the women of the house were watching a movie about Gracie, a young girl with a painful family life. Everyone there connected Kiara with the girl in the movie and before the night was over, Kiara became the newest and youngest resident. Heather continued to share, “Kiara is a beautiful young woman of God, growing in the grace and favor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. She has a heart for the Lord. She has a heart for recovery and she has a heart for serving. It’s one of the most beautiful things that I’ve ever seen in my life. It’s a true miracle that somebody her age can come out of the life that she came out of and desire to live a different way of life. Because a lot of us at that age, we’re thinking ‘We’re not done – not yet.’ Kiara has made it out. God truly did call you out of darkness and into the light. He has a marvelous plan for you.

## News from the Dettman’s

Hello family and friends,  
He is risen! I pray you're enjoying your Spring and are able to find a way to celebrate the resurrection with family and friends this year. Later this month, Ramadan will begin, and Muslims around the world will be striving to be good enough to earn their way into Heaven. They will be praying that God will show them the "straight path" and hoping that their good deeds will outweigh their bad deeds. With Ramadan moving up to start just after Easter, the juxtaposition is striking: we will celebrate the hope that we have, which was guaranteed when Jesus rose from the dead, when so many around the world are lost, looking for hope in all the wrong places. Please join us in praying for the people of Southwinds (a name Nick uses of the muslim country where he serves to protect the ministry), that during this Ramadan season God would powerfully reveal the "straight path" to them! Please let us know how you're doing; we'd love to know how we can be praying for you!

together for His glory, the Dettmans

## Sermon Series

In the summer, with people coming and going, it is always hard to build a sermon series. Each sermon almost needs to ‘stand alone.’ Are there some topics you would like to have explored in the summer sermons? If you have some thoughts, please let me know. Texting is the best way; I have a record of your suggestions. Text me at 319-640-7009.

## Youth Groups

Due to COVID, we did the best we could to work around school closures and other events. It continues to amaze Ben, Kim, and I the numbers that come each and every week. The only thing I know is the participation has nothing to do with the leaders and everything to do with God's hand blessing our community. Each week the youth are well behaved (well...for the most part), courteous, and attentive. We even had a guest speaker go out of their way to mention how well behaved and respectful they were. For me, because we have such great participation, it's kind of convicting for I feel like there is always more I could do to foster spiritual growth.

It's hard to remember back but we actually didn't start meeting until October by request of the school. We started in Proverbs talking about how wise men and women conduct themselves. Each week we covered a different topic ranging from anger to diligence to handling money. I had a lot of fun studying for each week as Proverbs has a lot of great practical advice.

Right before winter break, we asked the youth to write down a question they had about their faith, the Bible, or really just anything relating to God. These questions fueled our discussions for the entire spring semester. For us leaders, this was much more difficult to prepare for as many of the questions required us to do research and others required careful well-thought-out answers. Luckily, the Smith family agreed to help with several of the history /creation/dinosaur related questions. This was invaluable to us leaders, and I learned as much as the youth during those discussions!

Overall, we have had a great year. It is always sad to see a good group of seniors graduate, but I know we have several freshmen coming up that will be great members!

Last, we are very excited about going on a mission trip this summer to Westfield, IN. We are working through an organization called Group Workcamps. We will stay in a school, sleep on air mattresses in the classrooms, eat in the cafeteria, and have nightly worship services in the gym. During the day, we will go out into the community and work on houses of low income and elderly people. The combination of service, powerful nightly sessions, and simply being away from home and the daily grind of life puts everyone's heart in a vulnerable position for the Holy Spirit to work.

Please pray for Ben, Kim, and myself. There are times during the year when youth group can be frustrating, discouraging, and overwhelming. These seasons come and go, but we need people praying for us. We also need people praying for the upcoming mission trip. Pray for safety and spiritual growth for the youth and adults alike. Thank you all for your continued prayers and for the incredible support we get from our church family.  
---submitted by Seth Rohrbach

## Simple Ways to Share the Gospel

*<sup>14</sup> How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? <sup>15</sup> And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:14-15*

Our children began to be taught a simple gospel presentation through LifeWay's VBS curriculum, the **ABC's of Salvation**.

**ADMIT** to God that you are a sinner.

**BELIEVE** that Jesus Christ as God's Son died on the cross for your sins and rose again from the dead.

**CONFESS** your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

## 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

## Memory Verse for May

Be working on this important verse from  
*When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you  
also will be revealed with Him in glory. Col. 3:4*  
Be working on this verse as a family. Blessings.

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.

## Save the Date for VBS

### 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

Planning continues in preparation for Vacation Bible School in 2021. "Knights of North Castle" is scheduled to be held at St. Paul's/Grace UMC, Monday-Thursday, July 12-15 from 6:30-8:50 each evening for ages 4 through completed 6th grade. Check your monthly Messenger for more information.

## **St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting**

Monday, April 19, 2021

The 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, Ben Marshall, Nancy Haldiman, Mark Oerly and Sandee Eschenbrenner.

The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved with the correction of the spelling of Loshe to Lohse. The motion was made by Ben Marshall and seconded by Nancy Haldiman. Motion passed.

Mark Rohrbach presented the March Treasury Report. The motion to approve was made by Mark Oerly and seconded by Nancy Haldiman. Motion passed.

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Website: Pastor Steve advised that he would check our Website to see if any updates are needed.
2. Church Record Book: New members that joined St. Paul's on Palm Sunday have been recorded. They are Tim & Amber Wilson, Nat & Karen Smith, and Doug & Jackie Cowgill. The Board also discussed the idea of hereafter including the names of the new members in the Bulletin. It was also suggested that the "Reception of New Members" should be included in the Bulletin's "Order of Worship".
3. Men's Bathroom: Ben advised that the repairs have been completed.
4. Church Photo Directory: Nancy Haldiman gave us an update on her progress in locating a photographer to handle a new Church Directory. Mark Rohrbach suggested that it might be helpful to get an idea of Package Prices available from each. After some discussion, it was decided that Nancy would continue to gather information.
5. Sanctuary Furniture Arrangement: Some months back, when the upstairs restoration was being completed, you will recall the furniture in the altar area was rearranged several times. We had thought to allow the congregation a say in the final arrangement, but delayed until more were in regular attendance. Thus, pictures have now been made of the available arrangements and will be posted for your review and final selection. You will be asked to select your favorite on Sunday, May 9th (Mother's Day).
6. Sewer Situation: As most of you are aware, another backup occurred and we again needed to contact Rainbow International Restoration for cleanup. We also hired All Clear Pump & Sewer to scope the church's sewer lines. This led to our hiring Gene Haile Excavating to install a clean out and check valve.
7. Basement Door: A new basement door has been installed. It will be painted as soon as weather allows.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. April Bills: Mark Rohrbach presented the new bills for the month. The motion to pay same was made by Nancy Haldiman and seconded by Mark Oerly. Motion passed.

2. Bulletins: Paulette Reynolds has advised the board that she would like to retire from preparing the weekly bulletins. Debi Baumert has spoken to Olivia Oerly and she has agreed to take over this position. Our many, many thanks to Paulette for her service for many years. We appreciate all the time and effort extended to accomplish this task and commend her for a "Job Well Done"!

3. Cemetery Headstone: Apparently during the evening of a recent Family Night, some of the younger ones were playing outside and the top portion of one of the tombstones in the Methodist Cemetery was dislodged and fell over. The Methodist Church is aware of the situation. The Cemetery Committee has advised that they plan on doing a "walk through" of our cemetery to determine similar problems and then will contact Capitol Monuments and do another "walk through" with them. Thereafter, arrangements will be made to repair or correct the problems found. The tombstone involved in the Methodist Cemetery will be included in that project.

4. Foster Kids to Camp Aurora: On Sunday, April 25th, our Special Offering will go to help pay for foster kids to attend Camp Aurora. As of now, Matt Oerly has advised that he does not know exactly how many will be going. The Board decided that in the event we collect more money than needed, the excess will be donated to Camp Aurora. The motion was made by Ben Marshall and seconded by Mark Oerly. Motion passed.

#### PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Steve turned in his report showing home visits, telephone call and communion visits, along with mileage. He advised that the Middle School Youth Group and the Senior Youth Group will have their final gatherings this year on Wednesday, April 28th.

Pastor Steve has also signed up for a conference revolving around Ministering to Older People. It will take place July 5th through the 9th.

At our recent meeting with the Moniteau Board, we discussed asking Convoy of Hope to be our guest speaker for the Fall Mission Fest. Pastor Steve has not had any success in contacting them and receiving a response; therefore, he asked the Board for approval to contact Faith Maternity Care and provided each of us with a printed statement summarizing their goals. The Board agreed to his further investigation of this organization.

Debi informed us that our next Board Meeting will be on Monday, May 17th at 6:30 PM.

The motion to adjourn was made by Sandee Eschenbrenner and seconded by Nancy Haldiman. Motion passed. The meeting was closed by all reciting The Lord's Prayer.

Respectively submitted,  
Sandee Eschenbrenner

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, April 25th	Special Offering (Foster Kids to Camp Aurora)
Wednesday, April 28th	Middle School Youth Group/Senior Youth Group
Monday, May 17th	Board Meeting/6:30 PM
Sunday, May 23rd	Communion
	Special Offering (Cemetery)
Thursday, June 24th	Alex Imhoff Blood Drive/Community Building

NOTE: No Family Night in May due to school activities

# May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>*No Family Night in May due to school activities.</b>						1   Elaine Ernst
2   Randy Glenn	3	4   Jayden Klund Audrina Schoenthal Tristan Schoenthal	5	6	7   Tyler Dowell	8
9   Isabelle Rohrbach	10	11	12   Stephen Oerly	13	14	15
16   Paige Fain	17 Church Board Meeting At 6:30 p.m.  Nicholas Schoenthal	18	19   Sandra Eschenbrenner Walt Imhoff Gatlin Marshall	20	21	22   Wilma Knierim
23 Communion  Special Offering (Cemetery)  Denny Dietzel	24	25   Lexi Baumert Evan Croy	26   Owen Gentsch Rachel Brickey Lisa Porter	27	28   Julie King	29
30   Jarrett Gorman	31	<b>June 24<sup>th</sup> – Alex Imhoff Blood Drive at the Community Building</b>				