

St Paul's Evangelical Church

The Messenger

Edition 10, Volume 3
October, 2019

From Pastor Steve's Desk

Recently, because of a doctor's recommendation, I joined a gym. He said that it would do me good. I became a member, doing the paperwork and paying the fee. I am a member for the next 12 months whether I use the gym or not. If I use the gym, I will benefit physically, make some new friends and be able to encourage others as they seek to become healthier. If I do not use the gym, I am still a member, but I don't benefit and neither does anyone else.

Church membership is in some ways similar and in significant ways different. Jesus' dying on the cross paid the price for anyone to join, but we each must by faith make a decision whether to trust Jesus alone for salvation to become a member. We demonstrate our membership in the universal Church (remember the Apostle's Creed) by becoming members in a local branch of the universal Church. Having become a member, we can be active members and benefit from the spiritual encouragement, the fellowship and friendships we develop worshipping, praying and serving together; or, we can be inactive and not experience those benefits of membership. As we actively participate, we are a part of what Jesus is doing in our community and world and we experience a sense of joy and of blessing together.

Some become inactive because of personality problems (conflicts with others—but we are called to forgive others because we want Jesus to forgive us). Some become inactive because their lives fill up with things, good things hopefully, but things that squeeze out time with Jesus and with other Jesus followers. Perhaps they need to evaluate the importance of what they are doing in light of eternity. Some become inactive because they no longer are committed to the mission of Jesus and the church—that is, to help people find forgiveness for their sins through Jesus' death and resurrection and experience God's blessed presence daily. These probably would benefit from letting the church know they no longer have a heart for Jesus and His saving purpose in the world.

Whether a person is an active member or an inactive (or occasionally active member), the church has both a privilege and responsibility to care for his/her spirit and soul.

Church Events

Oct. 6 – World Wide Communion

Oct. 20 – Family Night/Fall Walk

Oct. 21 – Church Board Meeting at
6:15 p.m.

Nov. 3 – Evangelical Council Meeting
at 4:00 p.m. at Moniteau Advent
Church

Fall Walk Hosts:

*Mary Lou Bieri
Gary Schoenthal
Bryan Schoenthal
Steven and Courtney Borts
Don and Sandy Gerlach
Eric and Holly Bieri
Larry and Susan Borts

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A Faith Story from Mary Kay

In reading 2 Kings 17:7-20, I found a brief encapsulation of the deterioration of God and Israel's relationship. Verse 7 says: "All this took place because the Israelites had sinned against the LORD their God..." Verse 20 says: "Therefore the LORD rejected them and gave them into the hands of plunderers until he thrust them from his presence." The New Testament brings this closer to home and more personal in Romans 1 where God is not "speaking specifically about Israel, but about mankind in general (Gentiles)." In Romans 1:19-26 God says: "since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. . . . His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ... Therefore God gave them over to the sinful desires of their hearts...They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, worshipping and serving created things rather than the Creator...because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts... since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind..." These passages tell me that God has made "truth" clear. People have rejected "truth" and embraced lies, and the mess our world is in is the living out of these lies. Our tolerant, self-as-God, liberal thinking society is not so much the result of progressive upward thinking as it is a picture of a society which has rejected God, and thus, should expect to be "thrust from his presence" and "given over" by the God it has rejected. This is, actually, a great comfort to me, because it lets me know that what I generally see happening in the world today, is happening not because God has rejected man but because man has rejected God. The enemy of God is embraced and the masses are following him. And the Bible lets us know that GOD is the ONE with the real plan to save and redeem. When you follow Jesus and find yourself to be walking so completely counter culturally that you are the misfit, know that this is what happens when Christ transforms us. And He hasn't left us alone nor dis-empowered. He is ALWAYS with us (Omnipresent), and He has sent His Spirit to live within us to lead us and help us. Let us all be quick to Run to Jesus for help, comfort, wisdom, guidance...as we live as His followers in our seriously sick-with-sin society!

Sermon Series on the Holy Spirit

The night before Jesus died, He called His disciples and said, "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it sees Him not, neither knows Him: but you know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." (John 14) This Fall we will be exploring and learning about this One that Jesus prayed that we would have. Come and join us.

Update on Missions—Mission Fest

Our church is committed to taking the message of Jesus forgiveness and grace to those next-door and around the world. We support a number of missions: CRU (the Dettmans), Festival of Sharing (caring for the physical needs of those that are close), Healing House in Jefferson City (helping men and women recover from brokenness). We are also a part of The Evangelical Association (a group of churches that stretches across our country that has a history of faith and desires to be faithful to the LORD Jesus and the Word of God). God has been blessing our Association as churches and individuals join us each month. The Evangelical Association, in reaching the world through churches and church planting, is a mission organization as well as others. On Sept. 29th, we will have the privilege of having Rev. Jim Barnes come to share with us from God's Word and share what God is doing through the EA. Plan to come and join us for MissionFest 2019.

Becoming—

A Middle School Spiritual Journey

Using a resource, "The One Minute Bible for Students" we are developing a habit of daily Bible reading. The weekly devotional studies come from the reading of the week. On Sept. 11, Heather Geick from Healing House shared with both the High School and the Middle School. We are looking to add a musical segment to the meetings, learning to listen and evaluate the songs that we hear. We can always use help—contact Pastor Steve (319-640-7009, ecmc.steve@gmail.com) or Kathy Reimler (573-424-1086) if you would like to be part of the prayer team, food team, activity team or the teaching team. Going to be a great year.

Youth Rally in California

The California Ministerial Alliance hosted a youth rally Sept. 15th. A worship group and a speaker from Central Christian College shared with the youth. We met, enjoyed pizza, pop, prizes and praise. After the rally, the teens from around the county stayed to build relationships with the college praise band. We are looking forward to doing more of these in the future.

Senior High Youth Group

September has been a busy month for youth group. We started off with a Mission Trip meeting where we invited parents and discussed and answered questions about the upcoming trip in the summer of 2020. We are currently taking \$50 deposits for anyone, adults or youth (9th grade or older), and they are due October 9th. Please pass the word along to anyone you may think has an interest in going but may not be involved in the youth group. If you are an adult and would like to be a part of this powerful experience, please let Ben or I know.

This month we also welcomed Heather from the Healing House as a guest speaker. Heather has a powerful testimony that includes a dark past of alcoholism, drug addiction, and abuse. The Lord has done a great work in her life, and I believe the youth gained a lot from hearing about her past struggles and redemption.

Looking forward, we will finish up our series Jesus Changes Everything in a couple of weeks. The last week of the series we plan to meet up with the California UCC Youth Group and fellowship together. We have some ideas but don't have a clear path for our next study yet. Please pray for us as we weigh different options and move the group forward in the way it should go.

Submitted by Seth Rohrbach

WWJD

WWJD began on September 11 for the 2019-20 school year. This worship program for children in grades K-6 is held at St. Paul's Evangelical Church every Wednesday morning that Jamestown school is in session and currently has 28 children registered.

At the first gathering, WWJD volunteer Susan Borts led the devotional. The children were questioned as to what "WWJD" meant. While most replied the traditional "What Would Jesus Do?" answer, Susan explained that, for our group, it means "Wednesdays With Jesus Devotionals." They then discussed that "devotional" means an act of prayer or worship and that they can not only do this on Wednesdays but every day at home. One way they can do this is to read from the book 365 Bedtime Bible Stories which has been made available to all children who attend WWJD.

On Sept. 18, adult volunteer Kacey Clay added song to the devotional. Her daughter Hadley sang the first verse of "Down to the River to Pray" accompanied by Kacey on the guitar. The entire group joined in on the chorus and remaining verses. Following the song, Kacey led the group in a game of "Would You Rather?" After hearing a question read by Kacey, the children stood in the line representing their choice. Examples of questions read were: Would you rather be sold into slavery like Joseph or placed on an altar of sacrifice like Isaiah? Would you rather part the Red Sea or walk on water? After choosing an answer on each question, discussion was held on why respective choices were made. Kacey summarized by telling the children that many choices were made in the stories we can read in the Bible and that God continues giving us strength today to make good choices. In closing, all recited the Lord's Prayer.

Following breakfast on Sept. 25, the children and adult volunteers walked to the Jamestown school to join other students in grades K-12 who chose to gather outside around the flagpole in worship and prayer led by members of the HS youth group Christian Snyder, Keegan Borts, Clark Rohrbach, and Dalton Oerly. Begun in 1990, the "See You at the Pole" is a global gathering of thousands of Christian students at a flagpole in front of their local school for student-led prayer, scripture-reading, and worship during the hour before school starts on the fourth Wednesday in September.

Submitted by Susan Borts

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting
September 16, 2019

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board met on Monday, September 16, 2019. Present were Don Gerlach, Ted Rohrbach, Barb Oerly, Lisa Porter, 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 August 19, 2019, 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 and reviewed. One correction to the treasurer's report will be made. Barb made a motion to approve the report with changes to the church budget; total disbursement total column. Mark seconded the motion. Motion passed. Ted reported that \$1,576 was collected for the Festival of Sharing offering. There was discussion on the history of the offering. It is not completely understood by the current board and might be a good time to ask others in the church about the history.

Old Business:

- Mission trip update – Seth Rohrbach was at the meeting to give the board an update on the 2020 Mission Trip. The dates for the Mission Trip are June 14-20, 2020 and Covington, TN is the destination. The youth and chaperones will leave on Sunday, return on Saturday; with works days Monday - Friday. Each morning and evening there are sponsored events by Group Work Camps that the youth will attend. They will be housed at Covington High School. The cost will be approximately \$469 per person. The first deposit is due October 31 for \$50 per person, with full payment due May 15. At this time, 20 youth and five chaperone positions have been reserved. If there is additional interest, five more youth positions will be requested with no guarantee they will be available. The ratio of adults to youth is required to be 1 to 5. Kathy Reimler agreed to head up a fundraiser that in the past has been the third weekend in January. There is currently \$5,247.19 in the budget for Mission Trip. The board discussed sponsoring the youth with additional discussion to continue in future meetings. Don is going to contact the church insurance company to inquire about coverage for the people going. Seth is going to contact Group Work Camps to ask them about insurance. There was discussion about transportation. That will come together after the number of people going is determined. Seth will attend the November board meeting, after the first deposit deadline, when there is a better idea of how many will be attending. In the parent meeting, there was a request for parent chaperones but those have not been determined at this time.
- Church website calendar entries – Need to add Mission Fest. All dates are included below.
- Church record book – No update.
- Stewardship report – On hold until scope of work needed in the sanctuary is determined.
- Electrical work – Bids have been received. On hold until bids for other work have been received.
- Wax basement floor – Bid should be received this week for cleaning all carpet, except sanctuary, that includes moving the furniture and cleaning/buffing the basement floors.
- Copy machine in choir room – Copier has been purchased.
- Craig flood assistance – Lisa talked to Rachel Brickey about possible needs due to the flooding. Rachel said there was one family that was still displaced and could use assistance. Ted made a motion to give the family \$200 to assist the family as needed. Mark seconded the motion. Motion passed. There will be discussion on additional assistance for the family at the next board meeting.
- Memorial policy – After some discussion the board agreed to table until the next meeting.
- Parking lot repair update – The concrete has been patched and repaired.
- Parking lot recording update – Work is still being done to get the deed for the parking lot so it can be recorded in the correct name.
- Video update of church – Don is going to look in safe for video after meeting.
- Candle lighters – Candle lighters have been fixed. Oil refills were purchased and placed on candle lighters. It seems to have fixed the problem.

New Business:

- Approval of bills – Mark made a motion to approve payment of the bills and Lisa seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Bids for sanctuary:
 - Carpet – Bids received from Scruggs and Dutchers for carpet removal and replacement in sanctuary and steps to sanctuary.

- Pest Control – Bids should be received this week.
- Sanctuary Altar Renovation – Steve Duncan will give a bid by mid-October.
- Paint – Noland Porter and Imhoff Construction contacted and asked to provide a bid that includes repairing cracks, plaster and painting sanctuary.
- Mission Fest – Sunday, September 29. Reverend Jim Barnes from the Evangelical Association will be the guest speaker. The board discussed the mission fest offering. Lisa made a motion to split the offering 50/50 between the Healing House and the Evangelical Association unless designated otherwise. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Fall Walk – Sunday, October 20, 2019. Bryan Schoenthal will talk to Steve Borts about wagons for the hayride. Ted is working on the route for the walk. Don will ask Bryan if he is willing to take care of the hotdogs and talk to Larry Borts about getting the fish. The board discussed the offering. Debi made a motion to split the offering with 1/3 going each to the pool, community building and senior house unless designated otherwise. Karen and John Jones will be in attendance. Karen will be recognized for her years of dedication to the VBS and WWJD programs. Pastor Steve purchased a gift to give to Karen. Ted made a motion to reimburse Pastor Steve for the gift. Lisa seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Safe deposit box signatures – Mark made a motion to change the number of people required to get into the safe deposit box to one. Debi seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- New board members – The board discussed the need to start looking for new board members.
- Picnic tables – Ted is going to get rid of the old picnic table that can't be repaired. Barb is going to talk to Dalton Oerly about possibly building a new picnic table for the church in FFA.
- Tree – The board discussed replacement of the tree that died in front of the church. And possibly the addition of trees. Barb is going to talk to the Oerly family about using memorial funds to potentially purchase a tree.

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, local and traveling visits, phone contacts, mileage details, and expenses incurred.
- Thanksgiving service – Pastor Steve indicated Jamestown Baptist and New Hope would not be participating. He is going to talk to the Methodist Church about where it should be held.

Next board meeting will be Monday, October 21, at 6:15 pm.

Barb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The Lord's Prayer was recited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Oerly
Secretary

Dates to Remember:

Sunday, October 6 – World Wide Communion
 Sunday, October 20 – Family night; Fall Walk
 Monday, October 21 – Church board meeting @ 6:15 pm
 Sunday, November 3 - Evangelical Council Meeting @ 4:00 pm @ Moniteau Advent Church
 Sunday, November 10 – Nursing Home visits

Homeless Bag Ministry

Fall's here (kinda) so it's time to prepare for our Homeless Bag Ministry. Once again, I'm asking you to bring any hygiene samples you've accumulated - toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, etc. We can also use new toothbrushes and new or like new gloves and socks. Please put your contributions in the tote marked "Samples" located in the church basement.

Thanks! Sandee Eschenbrenner

<i>October 2019</i>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Fall Walk Hosts: Mary Lou Bieri Gary Schoenthal Bryan Schoenthal Steven and Courtney Borts Don and Sandy Gerlach Eric and Holly Bieri Larry and Susan Borts		1 Dick Marshall	2 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Teen/HS Youth groups 6:30-8:15 Dason Klund Joshua Nott	3	4	5
6 World Wide Communion	7 Mackenzie Strother Mickayla Strother	8 Noland Porter	9 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Teen/HS Youth groups 6:30-8:15 Kelsey Saunders	10	11 Bennett Gatlin	12
13 Kacey Clay	14 <i>Columbus Day</i> Kinley King	15 Trisha Meisenheimer	16 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Teen/HS Youth groups 6:30-8:15	17	18	19
20 Family Night/ Fall Walk	21 Church Board Meeting @ 6:15 p.m.	22	23 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Teen Youth group 6:30-8:15	24 Larry Reynolds	25 Keegan Borts Lance Hees	26
27 Tara VonderHaar	28 Leisa Hees Barbara Klund	29 Taylor Glenn Zachary Glenn	30 WWJD 6:50-7:45 am Teen/HS Youth groups 6:30-8:15 Lea Selby	31 <i>Halloween</i> Seth Stauffer	*November 3 – Evangelical Council Meeting at 4:00 p.m. at Moniteau Avent Church.	