

St Paul's Evangelical Church

The Messenger

Edition 6, Volume 3
March, 2023

From the Pastor's Desk

For the next few months, we are going to try to harness that tool by the 'Who Is My Neighbor' magnet. We want each family to have one, to prayerfully identify your neighbors and then pray for them consistently, believing that your prayers can change their lives. There are nine squares to fill in—so designate four of them your 'church neighbors.' People generally sit in the same place each Sunday. There are people to the right and left, in front and behind you. They are your 'church neighbors' and they need your prayers. The house you live has people that are your neighbors. They are your 'outside church neighbors.' Pray and invite them to come with you to Easter Services.



As we look forward to Easter, we celebrated Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22 at Moniteau. That marked the beginning of the Lenten Season, a 40-day period, a time when we consecrate ourselves in anticipation for Easter typically by denying ourselves something that is a part of our life. Jesus said, "If anyone would follow me, he must deny himself, take up his cross and follow." As you think about the thing(s) to lay aside in preparation for Easter, consider Hebrews 12:1-2, "Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking only at Jesus, the originator and perfecter of the faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." We are instructed to lay aside every obstacle (things that are not necessarily sin, but which hinder our spiritual growth—things like watching too much television and engaging too much with social media might be a couple of things), and laying aside the sin which so easily entangles us. Each of us has a sin or two that we seem to continually fall in. Lay that aside with the help of the Lord Jesus and focus on what Jesus has done for you and what He is calling you to do for Him.

Hebrews tells us that the Christian life is like a race. It takes time and effort. We don't have the time or the energy to burden ourselves down. Strip down to the essentials and look unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith. Make this a blessed Easter Season. Look around and consider inviting a friend or someone that you have missed.

Church Events

- March 3 – World Day of Prayer
- March 5 – Evangelical Council Meeting @ St. Paul's, 4:30 p.m.
- March 12 – Communion; Special Offering, Salvation Army
- March 19 – Family Night, Talent Night
- March 20 – Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- April 8 – Easter Party, 10:00 a.m.

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From our Missionaries—Dettman's

DEAR PARTNERS FOR THE GOSPEL,

"Until it's not rare." A student leader, Amy*, and local staff member, Gary* were sitting with 4 students who had been challenged to commit to meeting weekly to grow in their faith and reach their fellow students with the Gospel. As they discussed the vision they wanted to have for the group, they settled on "until it's not rare." Their vision is for our city to become a place where it's no longer rare to find a local believer. This student meeting has been one of the highlights of our year.

Last year, there was a student meeting for the first time in our city, with Amy and two of her classmates. This year, the group has grown by two students, and they are showing significant growth individually and as a group. One of the new students that has joined, Asher*, is a classmate of Amy's. She shared with him in the Fall semester, and then invited him to a Christian worship concert and then a Christmas outreach in the capital. The day after the Christmas outreach, after spending all day with some of our local staff and students, Asher decided to follow Jesus, and a few days later attended our student conference. He has been on fire ever since! Gary told me he has never seen a student like him, who is so hungry to learn and grow! The other new student in the group is Dan*, and I have been so encouraged by him this year. I first met Dan back in the Fall of 2018, and he decided to follow Jesus the following Spring, but for the next few years it was hard to get a hold of him and get him involved in fellowship. He was very hesitant to share about his faith with anyone outside of a few close friends. When Amy asked Dan last year about his vision for sharing the Gospel with students, he said he was not interested in talking about spiritual things with others. However, this school year has been a different story. Dan has been meeting with me faithfully every week and has been involved in everything we have done. He has even been coming to the international church that we attend, and one week afterwards he told me "I usually come to church pretty drained and tired, but when I leave I feel energized and excited." He has been participating in the student meeting, and has been sharing with some of his classmates. Praise God for His continued work in the hearts of His children!

In January, we had a mid-year evaluation of how the school year was going. One of the things that everyone agreed to focus on was reaching Motown*, the city across the bay from us, which has the fourth-largest university population in the

country. As part of our plan to start a student movement in Motown, teams from each city will spend time doing short outreach trips there. At the end of January, we had our first trip of the semester, and over three days we shared the Gospel with six students, and had spiritual conversations with an additional 13 students. We also met many students that we can follow up with later. Join us in praying for Motown, that God would help us to find students who are searching for Truth and ready to hear the Gospel, and that God would bring about a movement in the city!

Memory Verses for March

Memorization plants the Word of God in our hearts and minds:

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures," 1 Cor. 15

Senior High Youth Group

The Senior High is working through a study by Francis Chan (video) on the Gospel of Mark. As they work through the Gospel, they experience the events and lessons that shaped the Apostles.

Thank you!

The fundraiser for the Senior High Mission trip has made over \$15,000. Thank you for the part you played.

Middle School Youth Group

The Middle Schoolers received their tee shirts with the IXΘΥΣ logo. IXΘΥΣ is the Greek word



for 'fish,' hence the fish outside. But IXΘΥΣ is an acrostic, each letter standing for a word:

- I the first letter of Jesus in Greek
- X the first letter of Christos in Greek
- Θ the first letter of God in Greek
- Υ the first letter of Son in Greek
- Σ the first letter of Savior in Greek

Together, the Greek Word IXΘΥΣ means, "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior."

The rest of the semester, we will be looking at the booklet, *My Heart Christ's Home*, which teaches us that Christ wants to be a part of every part of our life, not just our Sunday morning life.

WWJD

Last fall we focused on the Ten Commandments, memorizing them and applying them. Moving forward we will be looking at 'The Fruit of the Spirit.'

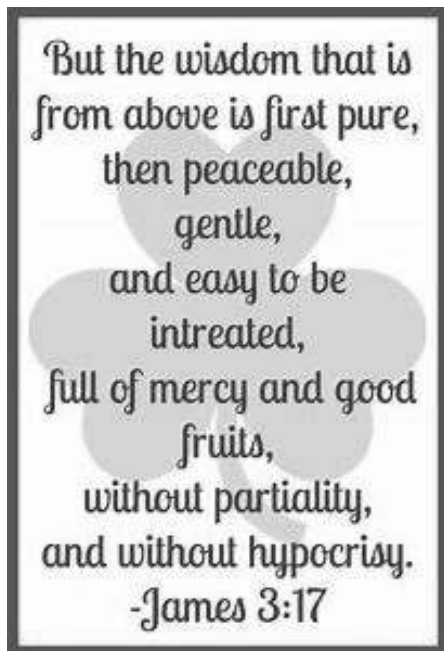
We want to thank those that help make WWJD possible. Pray with thanksgiving for our cooks: Sara and Natoma, Lisa and Mary Jane (Snyder), Sharon and Beryl, Judy and Geraldine, Liz and Tyler, Kim.

These young people are the future of the church. They need your prayers. We purchased 'club' shirts for the kids to wear on Wednesdays with wwjd/fish logo. Be looking for kids wearing these shirts and pray for them. We have 25-30 kids every week.

Sermons Moving to Easter

Easter is April 9th this year. Ash Wednesday was Feb. 22nd at Moniteau. We will be continuing our 'walk' thru Mark seeing Jesus preparing His disciples and aiming for the cross and resurrection. Make this Easter season a time when you and your family draw near to Jesus.

Plans for the Community Sunrise Service are being made in the next few weeks and we will let you know as soon as they are definite.



Easter Party

The Children's Easter Party will be held Saturday, April 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the basement of the church. There will be snacks, crafts, story time, and an egg hunt. Bring your kids, grandkids, neighbor kids, cousins; all kids are welcome! If you have any questions or would like to sign up to bring a snack, please contact Nancy Haldiman at 573-690-8528. If you would like to donate candy for the eggs, please purchase candy that will fit inside regular-sized eggs. Candy donations will be collected from Sunday March 19 – Saturday April 1. Candy can be given to Nancy Haldiman or left in the kitchen (please label that the candy is for the Easter party if you leave it in the kitchen).

Save the Date

Planning has begun to prepare for Vacation Bible School in 2023. "Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God" is scheduled to be held at St. Paul's/Grace UMC, Monday-Thursday, July 10-13 from 6:30-8:55 each evening. Children **ages 4 through completed 5th grade** are invited to the Hero Hotline Headquarters. Check your monthly Messenger for more information.

St. Paul's Evangelical Church Board Meeting

Monday, February 20, 2023

The February 20th, 2023 Board Meeting was called to order by President Lucas Heimericks and opened with prayer led by Pastor Steve. Those in attendance were Ben Marshall, Lucas Heimericks, Nancy Haldiman, Kathy Reimler, Doug Cowgill, Patty Waldron and Pastor Steve. Lucas presented the meeting agenda. Nancy moved for approval after updating agenda and it was seconded by Ben and approved by vote of the Board. The Secretary's report was presented, Nancy moved for approval and Patty seconded. Minutes were approved. The December Treasurer's report was presented by Kathy and the motion to approve was moved by Ben and seconded by Doug; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Church Record Book: No updates were noted.
2. Church Mutual Insurance Recap: Had a great meeting with Church Mutual where we went over our policy and learned a lot about what is covered and what is not. If you are interested in learning more about it, we have a 10-page overview that you are welcome to review. Please let Nancy know if you'd like to learn more about it. As a board we were very happy with our coverage.
3. Mission Trip Fundraiser Recap: The fundraiser was such an amazingly successful evening. As of board meeting there has been \$15,038.54 raised. Thank you to all those who have helped, contributed and donated. We live in an amazing community and are beyond blessed with all the support.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Visitor Guides – Judy Wittenberger has redone the visitors guide and she is going to get new ones laminated. Kathy is going to work with her on the lamination. Thank you, Judy, for your efforts to make our visitor guides look great in the pews.
2. Investing Funds – It was brought up to pray about our financial situations and ways to potentially invest funds back into the church, community or missions work. If any member has thoughts, please reach out to Kathy Reimler.
3. Young Christians Weekend – We have several youth from our youth groups attending Young Christians Weekend in Branson, in coordination with Main Street Baptist Church in California. Nancy moved to give Main Street Baptist Church \$600 for Young Christians Weekend, Kathy second, motion passed.
4. Family Night – Lashley and Joyce Rohrbach have been asked and agreed to line up the talent show with the help of Seth Rohrbach. Thanks, Lashley and Joyce for all your years of dedication and Seth for learning the ropes.
5. Evangelical Council Meeting will be March 5th hosted by St. Paul's. If any member has anything for the board to discuss at the joint council meeting, please let a board member know.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Steve presented his monthly report to the board. The report included mileage, expenses, and visitations.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

1. March 3 – World Day of Prayer (10:00am)
2. March 5 – Evangelical Council Meeting @ St. Paul's (4:30pm)
3. March 12 – Communion; Special Offering (Salvation Army)
5. March 19 – Family Night (Talent Night)
6. March 20 – Board Meeting (6:30pm)
7. April 8 – Easter Party (10:00am)

The motion to adjourn was moved by Ben, seconded by Nancy and passed by vote of the Board. The meeting was closed by all reciting The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Ben Marshall

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Family Night Hosts/Hostesses:</u> *Tim & Amber Wilson Dason & Barb Klund Barry & Heidi Eschenbrenner Tony & Trisha Meisenheimer Dwight & Donna Lenger Lucas & Christy Heimericks</p>			1	2	3 World Day of Prayer 10:00 a.m.	4
5 Evangelical Council Meeting @ St. Paul's 4:30 p.m. Kevin Anson Lucas Heimericks	6 Isaiah Heimericks	7	8	9 Norma Porter	10	11
12 Communion Special Offering Salvation Army Connie Souden	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Family Night Talent Show	20 Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. Matt Oerly Amber Wilson	21 Kolby Anson	22 Sara Rohrbach	23	24 Ryan Nott	25
26 Christina Derendinger Tim Fowler Nikki Gentsch	27	28 Carol Oerly	29	30 Dana Knierim	31	<p>April 8 Easter Party 10:00 a.m.</p>