

# News @ St. Paul's

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST PAUL'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH

MAY 2020

Church Family,

God had truly given us an amazing opportunity to connect with our actual neighbors. This year we are seeking to grow in welcoming people into our lives, our homes, and our church. This is our next step in seeking to do good works and build good will and share good news. While we can't welcome people into our church building, we can certainly step out our front door into the mission field God has planted us in. I hope you will consider pursuing one of the ideas in the graphic. You can be God's instrument for bringing life, love, and hope to your neighborhood. If you do not know where to begin, start by committing to daily walks in your neighborhood, move to praying as you walk, and then finally seek to initiate conversation with those you come across. May God use us all in powerful ways to love our actual neighbors as Christ has called us to do.

Grace,

Pastor Andrew

## In this Issue...

- A Prayer for these times // Page 2
- Prayer Email // Page 5
- Children's Library // Page 9
- Coronavirus Prayer Guide // Page 3
- Happenings Around the Church and Porch Pictures // pages 6-7
- Calendar Updates // Page 10
- Deacon News // Page 4
- Pet Show // page 8
- Children's Ministry // Page 10
- Elder News // Page 4
- Birthday Parade Invitation // Page 8
- Birthdays & Anniversaries // Page 11
- Search Committee News // Page 5
- Picnic Save-the-date // Page 9
- Condolences // Page 11
- Ladies Bible Study // Page 5

## Working Case Studies from Real Churches



### 7 WAYS TO LOVE THY NEIGHBOR IN A PANDEMIC



#### Rally your block or street around a way to care for First Responders

Have every household in your church reach out to people on their block, select a specific way to care for First Responders, get everyone involved in the effort.



#### Chalk Art on every sidewalk and driveway.

Every household writes words of encouragement, scripture passages and things they are thankful for. Leave chalk for other people to write things (including ways for them to hold it in a safe way).



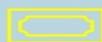
#### Blessing Bags

Have every household in your church put together a Blessing Bag that would be meaningful to people where they specifically live. Each person gives 30 of them out to neighbors around them.



#### Coordinated Prayer Walks

Have every small group in your church coordinate a time when the people in that group are going to go on a Prayer Walk in their neighborhood at the same time. Do a virtual meet up time afterward to debrief and continue to pray for breakthrough.



#### Set aside their Stimulus Check

Encourage everyone in your church to pray about setting aside their stimulus check for when their neighbors might be in need. As opportunities arise, have them use the funds to serve and bless those around them.



#### Be Present in the Front Yard Twice a Week

For those who have a front yard, encourage everyone in the church to spend an hour there 2x's a week. Maybe do dinner in lawn chairs or have cornhole boards set up. Talk to people as they pass by.



#### Social Distancing Coffee or Happy Hour

Have every person in your church do a Saturday morning social distancing coffee hour or Friday Night Happy Hour on their block. When people gather, have people share peaks and pits from their week. Follow up with people for specific prayers.

## **A PRAYER FOR THESE TIMES by Bob Schalk**

Dear Lord God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;

We come before your throne of Grace in the name that is above all names, the name of Jesus to lay our prayers and petitions before you seeking your grace, your mercy and your loving kindness at this time. We find ourselves in a most unusual time and circumstance in the face of this corona virus that has us sheltering at home. We have not gathered together to worship you in our sanctuary as is our custom and our preference in over a month and that has been a difficult adjustment. We miss coming together for the purpose of lifting high the name of Jesus and fellowshiping in our love for You and for one another. Help us oh Lord to keep our sense of Christian community until such time as we can gather together again. How we long for that day.

Lord God, this shelter at home order has brought hardships on many of us that could not have been foreseen or planned for. Many have lost their jobs due to this virus and are struggling to make ends meet. Others are suffering from illness and getting medical attention is more difficult now that it had been previously. Health care workers are working long shifts in hospitals and nursing homes to provide the extra level of care needed at this time. Our world has come to a stop, a long pause as we try as a people to determine the best course forward. We don't know what that course is or even what our next step ought to be. We are bewildered and dumbfounded as to how we should proceed. Have mercy on us Oh God, we have come to realize just how desperately we need you.

We pray that your healing power would be released throughout our land to heal and restore all of those affected and afflicted with this virus. We pray and ask that you would provide and meet the needs of all those who have lost their jobs and sustain them until they are employed again. We pray and ask for strength, stamina, courage and endurance to sustain us through this time of self-quarantine and social distancing.

We know and we acknowledge that your plans and your purposes will be accomplished through the entire endeavor. We believe, and we profess that You oh Lord will take this entire pandemic and use this for your purposes and will use it to accomplish your will. We believe and we profess that we as your people will grasp hold of this and find peace in knowing that you are still God, still sovereign, still on your throne still in complete control, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of Israel, the Great I Am. Pour out your spirit on us at this time of need to sustain and uplift us as we look to You and You alone. It is in Jesus Name that we pray.

And all God's people said, Amen!

# A 7-DAY CORONAVIRUS PRAYER GUIDE



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pray for those who are sick, and their families, that the Lord would heal and comfort them.

## PRAY FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Pray for those on the frontlines treating those who are sick, that the Lord would protect and strengthen them.



## PRAY FOR THE VULNERABLE

Pray for those who are especially vulnerable to disease, that the sickness would pass over them and that they would rely on others for help.

## PRAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Pray for those who have lost work, that God would provide through their families and communities.



## PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

Pray for national and local government leaders, that they would have wisdom to do what is best for all.

## PRAY FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Pray for students who are out of school, and their families, that the Lord would give them patience and discipline.



## PRAY FOR CHURCHES

Pray for churches and ministry leaders, that they would know how to best show the love of Christ in this time.

“Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Don’t let your heart be troubled or fearful.”

**JOHN 14:27**

## From the Deacons by Charlie Jung

Newsletter from the Deacons meeting on April 13,2020,

We met via zoom. Approved minutes from March meeting and Approved the Financial report for March which was good considering the times we are in.

We have applied for the Cares Act Loan and since the meeting have been informed, we were granted this loan. We have provided the Pastor with funds to help anyone who is in need at this time.

We have communicated with Beit Telfilah about their normal monthly donation to the church and because of them not meeting in the church we are accepting a lesser amount that they have suggested. The rezoning project for 932 Warson is on hold till things open back up. We are hoping that everyone will consider continuing their giving during these trying times and if anyone is in need please contact Pastor Mark or Pastor Andrew. God will lead us through these trying days.

## From the Elders by Jim Glauert

Speaking for the elder board, we miss you. There are a lot of smiling faces that we haven't seen in a while. We miss friends we haven't been able to give a hug or hand shake between services. Still we are glad that people are safe for the most part. Keeping people safe to do God's will is our goal.

So when will we get back to seeing everyone at church again? We don't know yet. The first goal to meet is St. Louis County's requirements. This will come after the date established by the State of Missouri due to the higher incidence of Covid-19 in the metropolitan area versus the rest of the state.

Will we automatically open up once St. Louis County allows us? Maybe. We need to take a close look at what being "open" means: social distancing, occupancy limits, and requirements for regular "deep cleaning". We also need to consider that many in our congregation are in the highest risk group for virus susceptibility. We don't want to be the reason for anyone to get sick.

The elder board discussed at length what comes next in the regular April monthly meeting and again on April 30. We'll review the situation again during the May meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>. We are all in agreement with waiting for the County's "all clear" before we consider reopening. Only then will we make plans for opening based on what the "new normal" entails.

In the mean time I hope you are tuning in to our Sunday services on Facebook Live or listening in on the telephone conference line. The Women's Bible Study continues on Wednesday mornings on Zoom. Other groups, like Stephen Ministry and Focus, are continuing to meet virtually. Pastor Mark has been hosting some very informative discussions on Tuesdays and Thursdays via conference call. Pastor Andrew has been sharing a message on Wednesday. If you're involved in a small group, check with you leader to see how your group is meeting. Check the website for the details on how to keep up with what's going on at St. Paul's.

Remember if there is an issue you face that requires prayer then email [prayer@stpaulsefree.org](mailto:prayer@stpaulsefree.org) with how we can pray for you. If you need to share your burden with a trained listener contact Pastor Mark or Joyce Sabine about the possibility of getting a Stephen Minister.

Stay safe and may God bless,  
Jim

## From the Search Team by Don Andrews

The Family Ministries Pastor Search Team has continued to meet on a regular basis even though our meetings have recently been virtual. We also had another successful interview using Zoom last month! Members of the Search Team are: Don Andrews; Chair, Pastor Andrew, David Frederick, Lisa Stahlhut, Conway Wong, and Mark Immekus.

We currently have four candidates who are under consideration and have done an initial interview with three of them. We are blessed by the quality of the young men that God has brought to us and we continue to seek His guidance on the candidate He desires for St. Paul's.

A major next step for your Search Team is to develop the approach we will recommend to the Elders for the candidate we invite to come to St. Paul's and candidate with our congregation. Please continue to pray for us as we also begin our consideration of the choice from among all the candidates regarding whom we should extend an invitation to come and candidate with St. Paul's.

God's Blessings and Peace  
Don

## Women's Ministry News

### **Ladies' Bible Study**

After finding Jesus in Genesis for most of this year, the Ladies Bible Study is now studying *The Wisdom of God, Seeing Jesus in the Psalms and Wisdom Books* by Nancy Guthrie. We have been meeting on Zoom for the past several weeks; we all agree that, while it is not as good as being

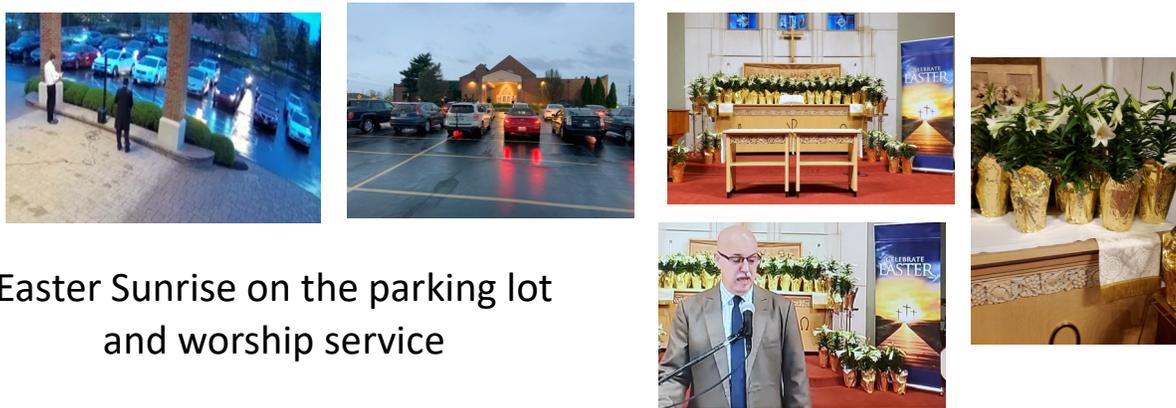
together, it is much better than not meeting or seeing each other at all. We will be "Zooming" on Wednesday mornings 9:30 – 11:00 am through May 27. If anyone would like to join us, please contact Joyce Lindstrom (314-576-4209 or [jlindstrom@stchas.edu](mailto:jlindstrom@stchas.edu)). We will begin our fall semester on September 16.



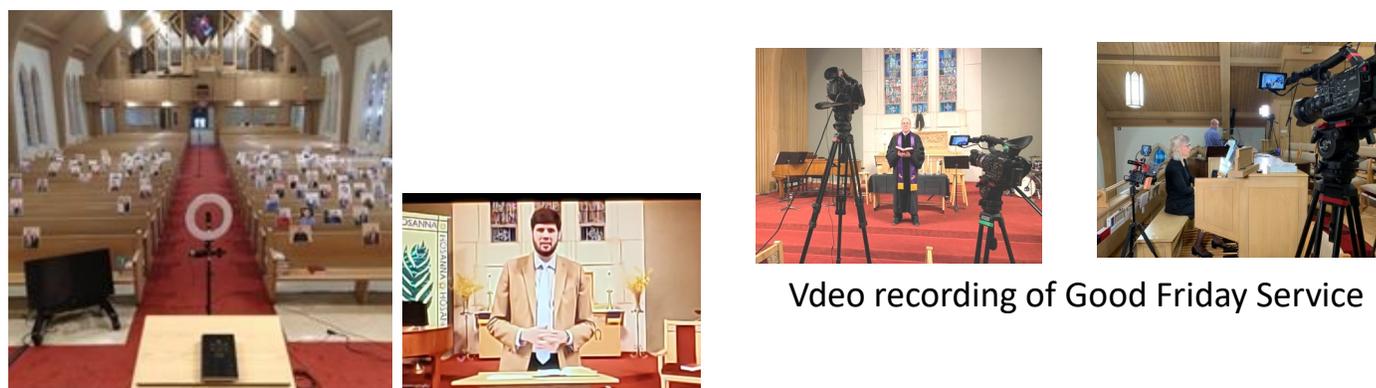
# NEED PRAYER?

email your prayer requests to:  
[prayer@stpaulsefree.org](mailto:prayer@stpaulsefree.org)

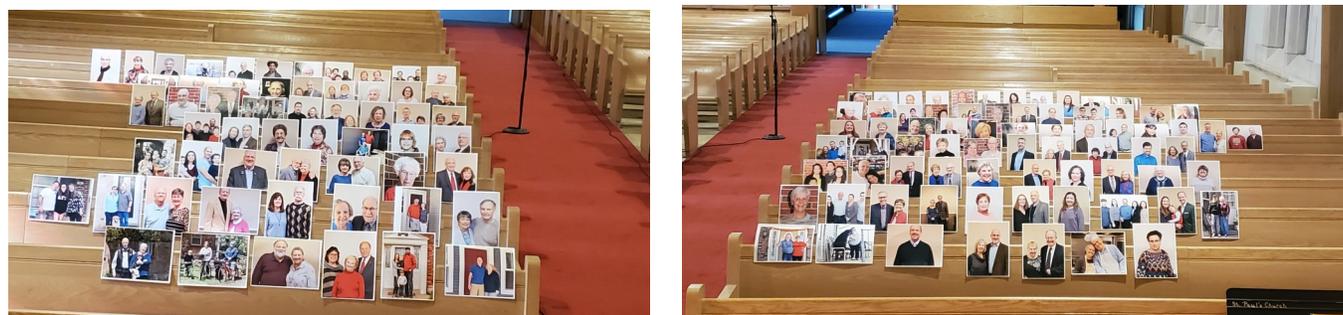
# Happenings at the Church, while we've been away



Easter Sunrise on the parking lot and worship service



Video recording of Good Friday Service



“Online” Worship in the Sanctuary The Pastors and Worship Leaders see our faces!

The church grounds were visited by the Great Flamingo Hunt!



Wednesday Morning Bible Study, by Zoom





**WE WANT TO SEE YOUR  
FURRY FAMILY  
MEMBERS!**



## **ST. PAUL'S VIRTUAL PET SHOW**

Email pics of your pets-dogs, cats, bunnies, hamsters, fish, birds. Kids: don't have a pet running around? Send us a pic of your favorite stuffed animal! Send your photos, by 5/15/2020, to: [stpauls@stpaulsefree.org](mailto:stpauls@stpaulsefree.org)

You're Invited to a Birthday Parade!  
For Larry Jackson's 80th  
Saturday, May 16 @ 2:00pm



If you would like to help Surprise Larry on his special day, meet at the Fern Ridge School parking lot (13157 Olive Spur Road) that afternoon. We will leave the parking lot at 2:00pm and we will all parade through his subdivision. If you have any questions, contact Sue 314-517-3227.



*Save-the Date*  
**Church Picnic**  
**August 30, 2020**



WE'RE WORKING ON A NEW  
**CHILDREN'S LIBRARY**  
IN THE CHILDREN'S AREA

---

SAVE YOUR GENTLY USED BOOKS FOR BABIES - TEENS,  
AND PARENTING RESOURCES



## Calendar Updates

**VBS** has been postponed. We are hoping to hold it late in the summer

**Youth Mission Trip:** Sadly, has been cancelled. We hope to find some alternative opportunities for the Youth this summer.

**King's Kids Camp** is still being evaluated. You can register your intent to attend camp at our new website: [www.kkcstl.org](http://www.kkcstl.org)

## Children's Ministry Update by Lisa Stahlhut

Children and Family Ministries

Galatians 6:9

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

Romans 12:12

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Patience. It seems so hard to be patient sometimes, and the current state of things makes it even more difficult. This pandemic has been good to help me work on patience in all areas of my life, including my church life. While we haven't been able to meet together, plans continue for the days we are able to return.

While we were unable to hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt, we tried to spread some cheer to our families by delivering some goodies to their houses in the format of a porch drop off. Hopefully the children enjoyed their little surprise of candy and trinkets.

We also held a virtual story time in April, and learned about Old Turtle from Mr. Don and were given a craft idea to go with the story. It was so great seeing those faces, even if it was on a computer screen!

Unfortunately, we are going to cancel VBS, scheduled to be held in June this year. Our hope is that it will be able to be scheduled later in the year. While this is very disappointing to me personally, it brings me back to that word patience. Like they say, good things come to those that are patient, and I am sure God will prove this to be true.

Please continue to hold our families in prayer as we continue to navigate this journey together. We are so looking forward to being able to worship together again soon!



Sarah Crews 5/1  
 Conway Wong 5/1  
 Cindy Glauert 5/5  
 Molly Crawford 5/7  
 Kelly Cug 5/7  
 David Oliver 5/7  
 Virginia Thomas 5/8  
 James Knappenberger 5/9  
 Carol Teter 5/10  
 Marlene Eschenbrenner 5/12  
 Katie Paquette 5/12  
 Janet Jung 5/13  
 Bobbie Blackmer 5/14  
 Lisa Houska 5/14  
 Ron Hueffmeier 5/14  
 Drake Ives 5/14  
 Evans Ives 5/14

Fred Triebe 5/14  
 Juliet Daniel 5/15  
 Kathy Fischer 5/16  
 Larry Jackson 5/16  
 Jane Fischer 5/17  
 Delcie Payne 5/17  
 Lynn Starbuck 5/19  
 Kim Paquette 5/22  
 Bob Summers 5/22  
 Jerri Gill 5/23  
 Barbara Hueffmeier 5/23  
 Phyllis Caesar 5/24  
 Joe Pollmann 5/24  
 Richard Scholl 5/24  
 Fred Vollmer 5/24

**William Wyne 5/24—101 years!**

Faye Eichholz 5/25  
 Mary Broky 5/26  
 Lendy Middendorf 5/27  
 Olivia Neier 5/27  
 Frank May 5/29  
 Jennifer Steimel 5/30  
 Roger Lindstrom 6/1  
 Elaine Gabler 6/2  
 Nick Palombo 6/2  
 Jack Owens 6/3  
 Easton Hohmann 6/5  
 Bill Mueller 6/5



	<b>Years</b>	
Jeff & Tera Stahlhut	10	5/8
Alan & Laura Mueller	5	5/16
Steven & Christine Vasel	39	5/16
Arthur & Jill Pasteris	43	5/21
Frank & Lynn May	50	5/23
Dennis & Donna Jayne	46	5/25
James & Betsy Stull	35	5/25
Bob & Betty Binns	58	5/26
Brian & Elizabeth Thomas	41	5/26
Marco & Kari van Raalten	30	5/26
Kevin & Laura Graeler	4	5/29
Stefan & Kelly Cug	7	6/1
Michael & Sharon McGaully	57	6/1
Conway & Letitia Wong	20	6/3
David & Amanda Frederick	9	6/4

## Our Condolences

**Jerry Carinci** passed away April 5, 2020, at the age of 76. He is survived by wife, Carol.

Thank you for the kind thoughts and prayers from so many at St. Paul's on the death of my husband, Jerry. Your support has helped me cope in these unimagineable times.

Carol Carinci



**St. Paul's Evangelical Church**

9801 Olive Boulevard

St. Louis, MO 63141



**[www.stpaulsefree.org](http://www.stpaulsefree.org)**

**314-993-0015**