

ST. PAUL'S

**EVANGELICAL
CHURCH**

BEGINNING
SEPTEMBER 12TH

Fall Schedule

9:30am WORSHIP SERVICE
Kid's Church & Nursery Provided

10:30-11am FELLOWSHIP TIME

11-11:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL

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Sunday School

11-11:45am

Children & students: lower level

*** Men's class: front room**

Spiritual Sisters: room 5

Adult Bible Fellowship: mpr

***Book Club meets before
worship service @8:30am**

In a Digital Age **-Pastor Daniel Sjogren**

I recently read about a poll that was conducted that found that about 80% of Democrats think the Republican party has been taken over by racists and just over 80% of Republicans think the Democrat party has been taken over by socialists (PRRI 2020 American Values Survey). I find this deeply troubling. Couple this with rampant misinformation about COVID, the vaccines, critical race theory, masks...etc. and you see that we are living in a time of division, disagreements, and disdain for anyone who happens to have an opinion that is not in line with our own. Our nation is deeply divided across all kinds of lines and that includes within the church. Social media is filled with comments that seek to vilify those on the “other” side no matter what side that may be. And sadly, Christians are at the forefront of a lot of this.

As a pastor, one thing I find concerning is the lack of discernment and wisdom demonstrated by many Christians. We have become very reactionary and also very unwilling to seek out the truth especially if it doesn't already fit into our nice, familiar box. So how do we, as Christians, become discerning and wise when it comes to the information we take in and then pass on? I believe this is an important question and one that we should care about deeply. Jesus himself calls us to be as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves (Matthew 10:16). Unfortunately, it appears that political ideologies and talking points have replaced biblical ones and that instead of seeking wisdom, many Christians are believing and spreading false conspiracy theories.

I think it is time we reclaim biblical wisdom and discernment as our mantle while we become media literate. So, let's talk about some concrete ways we can spread truth instead of misinformation in this age of broadcast, print, and new media like YouTube and Facebook.

1. **Verify media message sources** – don't share or accept something as truth if it cannot be verified. All media messages are constructed so it is important to find out who constructed the message and verify that it is true. Work on understanding how to identify fake images, misquotes, and rumors. Media messages without proper, reputable sources cannot be trusted as facts.
2. **Discern and understand the difference between opinions and verifiable facts** – all media messages are designed to be persuasive. Learn about sensational language, syntax, and grammar so you're less susceptible to manipulation. Just because one person or group states an opinion, does not make it a fact. Talk radio, broadcast news, and social media are flooded with opinions presented as facts. If you encounter messages on any outlet like a radio show, CNN or on FOX, it still does not make it true unless it is verifiable.
3. **If it seems too good to be true, it probably is** – if someone is peddling a claim that everyone else is wrong and they have found the 'real' truth, it's probably not the truth. Very few media messages are designed without gaining profit and/or power as the goal. Remember that almost all the messages you consume are designed to use you as human capital in some way and conspiracies have always been lucrative. No, the vaccines don't and cannot have microchips in them. No not all Democrats are communists and no not all Republicans are racist. Don't settle for sensationalism and excitement at the expense of truth and wisdom.
4. **Seek understanding with Christian charity and respect** – please stop vilifying the other side. I would love to see more charitable conversations between people with differing views on a particular topic. I would love to see Democrats and Republicans working together to get things accomplished on common ground instead of spending all of their time lobbing verbal barbs and threats at the other.

Christians should be cautious in what they choose to share on social media and should especially be sure that what they say and share is not easily demonstrated to be false simply by doing a little research. Before you share something, pause and think about your purpose in sharing it and be sure to check to see if it is factual or not. If we as Christians are not wise and discerning, we will lose our opportunity to witness about the most important thing with those around us – the new life available through Jesus Christ. I hope this challenges and encourages you to think differently about what you consume and what you share on social media or with family and friends. If you feel like you would like help in becoming media literate, I would love to have a conversation with you and provide you with educational resources.

Ladies Bible Study

Beginning September 15, 9:00 – 10:45 am, the Ladies' Bible Study will begin our fall semester, meeting in person in Room 5! We will be studying Nancy Guthrie's *The Lamb of God*, *Seeing Jesus in Exodus*, *Leviticus*, *Numbers*, and *Deuteronomy*. Books are \$20. We will have in-person and remote options. Please let Gerene Hecht know that you are planning to join us and whether you would prefer in-person or remote at gerhecht@charter.net or 636-733-0701. Please include your name, phone number, and email address if you have one. We look forward to seeing you!

*The class will include a model of the tabernacle for reference.
It was recently assembled, with love, by Judy Pfeiffer and Grace Koewing.*



Women's Fellowship

All women are invited to celebrate our theme, "Welcoming Others." Come for a time of fellowship as we continue with Joy in the Journey during challenging times. Bring a sack lunch. Dessert and drinks are provided.

We look forward to being together from 11:30am to 2pm, Wednesday, Sept 8, 2021.

Quilts of Valor

Our Quilters group has a new association with the Quilts of Valor organization, making quilts for veterans. Lynn May began the group, "Valor Quilters of St. Paul's" here after her father and brother received quilts in Pennsylvania at a family gathering.

The St. Paul's group was contacted in April by another QOV group about completing a quilt. A woman had a quilt that had been started years earlier by her mother-in-law. Her 93-year-old husband was a WWII Navy veteran. Our quilters completed the project and were able to present it to him as a Quilt of Valor.

To date, our group has awarded six veterans their Quilt of Valor. As with all of our quilting and sewing groups who meet on Tuesdays, you are always welcome to come join the fun!



David Smith,
Marine, WWII



Kurt Smith
Marine, WWII



St. Paul's QOV presenting to
Bill Koenecker, Navy WWII

Prayer Meetings

Join us for a time of prayer for our church

9:00am

- Tuesday, September 21
- Saturday, September 25

PREACHING SCHEDULE

PREACHING SCHEDULE	
Sept 5	Todd Brooks
Sept 12	Don Price
Sept 19	Don Price
Sept 26	Bob Schalk

amazon

smile

You can now help St. Paul's when shopping on Amazon.

Designate
"St Pauls Evangelical Church
of St Louis Missouri"
under the AmazonSmile tab,
or use the link below.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-0677634>

SCHNUCKS E-SCRIPT CARDS SPONSORED BY CRUSADERS

Schnucks has discontinued the E-Script card fund raising program.

HISTORY OF THE SHOPPING CARD

We started this Fundraising program, June 2006, 15 years ago.

Selling shopping cards for Dierbergs, Schnucks, and Shop N Save.

Shop N Save closed November 2018 .

Schnucks changed to e-script card.

We continued to sell the Dierbergs Shopping cards until June 2019.

Schnucks E-Script card until August 2021.

The proceeds Crusaders received from this Fundraiser were used for

Kings Kids Camp, Women's Ministry, and help with other needs of the Church.

We want to thank everyone who supported Crusaders the past 15 years by purchasing the shopping cards and helping on Sunday Morning selling the cards. This was a Fundraiser to help the Crusaders ministry.



We would like to thank our church community for coming alongside our daughter Charlotte with her move to a more suitable house for her medical condition.

We were overwhelmed with all the love shown to her. There were at least 20 people to help with the move. We want to thank especially our church members: Don Andrews, Stefan Cug, Jorge Del Cid, Christy and Jeff Drake, Ben Gemignani, David Pollmann, and Jamie Stull for their help. We could not have done it without you.

Robert, Sieglinde and Charlotte Schnellbacher



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Kelly Schjenken	9/2	Jill Pasteris	9/12	Lee Carlson	9/23
Rosa Frederick	9/3	Marie Braton	9/13	Jean Buelter	9/27
Paul Wilson	9/3	Jacob Dahl	9/13	Melanie Vassel	9/29
Rosemary Wilson	9/3	Jonathan Seley	9/14	Maggie Alstadt	10/1
Jim Crews	9/5	David Braton	9/16	Tyler Martin	10/2
Melinda Seley	9/6	Alan Mueller	9/16	Melvin Woods	10/2
Carol Carinci	9/8	Don Andrews	9/18	Walter Gummersheimer	10/5
Sue Jackson	9/10	Mark Immekus	9/19	Betty Williams	10/6
Leslie Koewing	9/10	Mark Braton	9/20	James Stull	10/7
Lucas Pfeiffer	9/10	Sieglinde Schnellbacher	9/20	Jim Glauert	10/8
Richard Niedringhaus	9/11	Nancy Crews	9/21	Bob Vass	10/9
Carole Stahlhut	9/11	Apollo Frederick	9/22	Kellie Walter	10/10



Scott & Jannet Dieckgraefe	37	9/1
Fred & Margy Robinson	59	9/2
Janet & Ed Rolle	53	9/7
Ken & Mary Broky	43	9/9
Ron & Barb Hueffmeier	54	9/9
Robert & Karen Tucker	18	9/9
Paul & Rosemary Wilson	55	9/10
John & Debbie Graeler	37	9/15
Charles & Janet Jung	40	9/18
Gary & Madelyn Oliver	13	9/21
Jeff & Christy Drake	20	9/22
Paul & Becky Daniel	38	9/24
Beverly & Rick Millard	17	9/25
Kate & Daniel Alstadt	10	10/1



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